

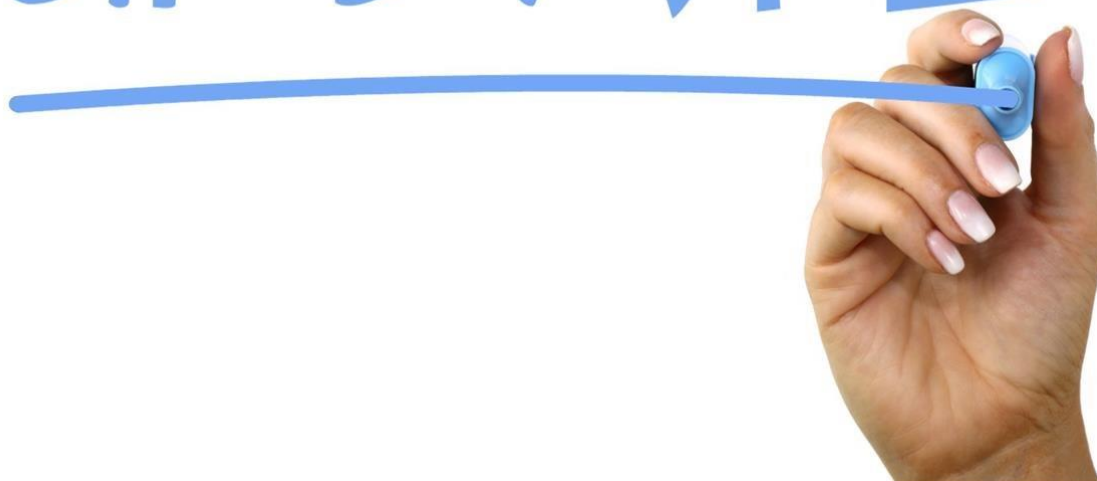


Viewforth High School

Newsletter - 4th September 2023

Head Teacher Update

UPDATE



I hope this weekly update finds you well, having enjoyed some late summer sunshine over the weekend. As the weather is due to warm up again this week, a reminder that young people are still expected to arrive in school in full school uniform. Pupils are welcome to wear knee length, plain black shorts but cycling shorts or short shorts are not school uniform.

Our extra curricular clubs and activities started last week and it was great to see some young people get involved, however we'd like to see many more join in. Mr Learmonth was delighted with the attendance at the S1-3 football club after school on Tuesday, however he'd like to see more S1 pupils. If you have an S1 footballer at home, please encourage them to get involved. There are a wide range of sporting clubs on offer (please see below). There is also a range of non-sporting clubs including:

Monday

S1 and S2 Music Club - 1.10pm in A2.01

Tuesday

Choir - 1.10pm in A2.01

Coding Club - 12.55pm in S2.05

Wednesday

Chess Club - 1pm in B2.03

S3 - S6 Percussion Group - 1.10pm in A2.05

Geography Club - 1.10pm in B1.02

Thursday

Sewing and Textile Club - 1.10pm in S2.01


String Group - 1.10pm in A2.05

Friday

Gaming Club - 1.15pm in S1.06

Wind Band - 1.10pm in A2.01

Extra Curricular Sport Activities 2023-24



Monday (Lunchtime)

- Basketball** • 1.05pm-1.35pm
S1 • Games Hall • Sports Leaders
- Dance** • 1.05pm-1.35pm
S1-3 • Gym Hall • Miss MacMillan

Tuesday (Lunchtime)

- Badminton** • 1.05pm-1.35pm
S1-2 • Games Hall • Sports Leaders

Friday (Lunchtime)

- Table Tennis** • 1.05pm-1.35pm
S1-3 • Games Hall • Sports Leaders

Tuesday (After-School)


- Basketball** • 3.15pm-4.15pm
S1-3 • Games Hall • Fife Steel Basketball Club
- Cheerleading** • 3.15pm-4pm
S1-6 • Gym Hall • Miss MacMillan
- Fitness** • 3.15pm-4pm
S1-3 • Fitness Suite • Mr Connelly
- Football** • 3.15pm-4.15pm
S1-3 • Astro • Mr Learmonth

Wednesday (After-School)

- Football** • 3.15pm-4pm
S4-6 • Astro • Mr Wilson
- Netball** • 3.15pm-4.15pm
S1 • Games Hall • Mrs Kerr

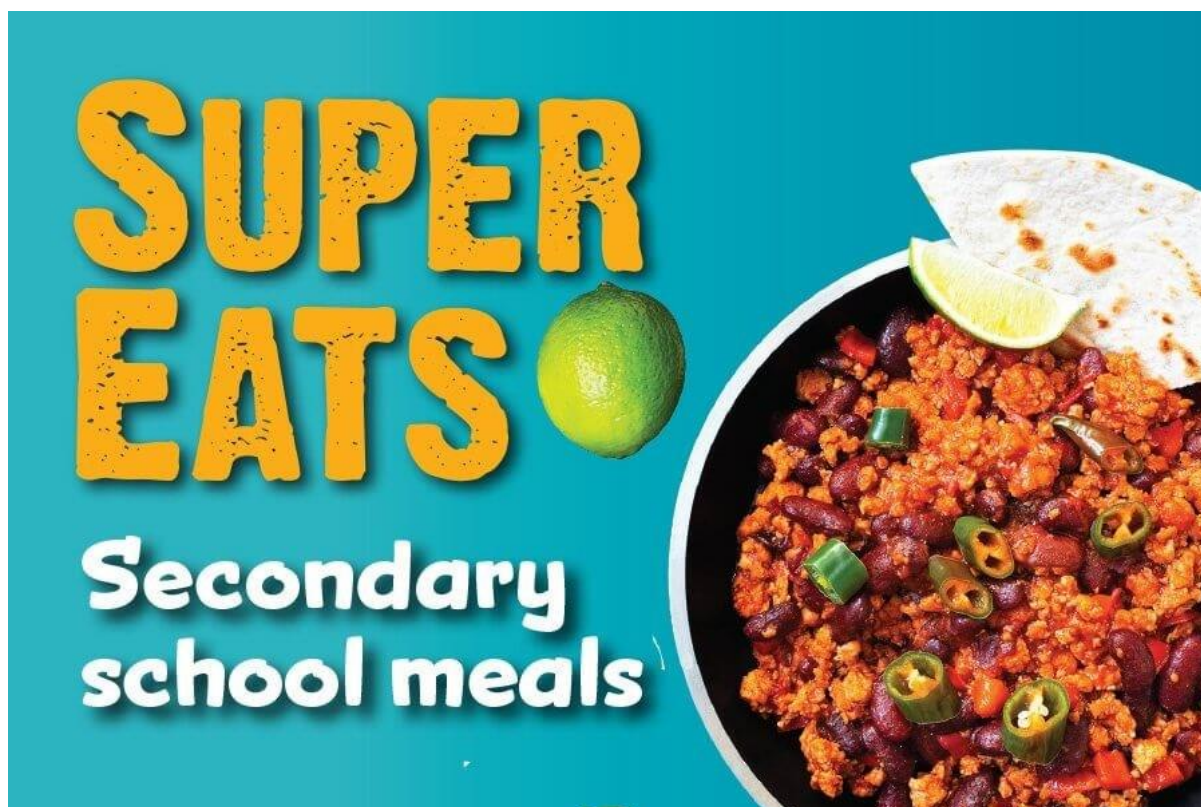
Thursday (After-School)

- Fitness** • 3.15pm-4pm
S4-6 • Fitness Suite • Mr Connelly



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School Lunches



Fife Council have recently revised their school lunch menu and you can find out more information, via this link. Secondary School Meals | Fife Council¹ If your child is eligible for free school meals, they will have £2.40 allocated to their My Fife Card on a daily basis. If you think your child may be eligible for free school meals, but you haven't yet applied, you can do so via this link. Apply for a school clothing grant and/or free school meals/milk | Fife Council² If you require help with the application, please contact your child's guidance teacher.

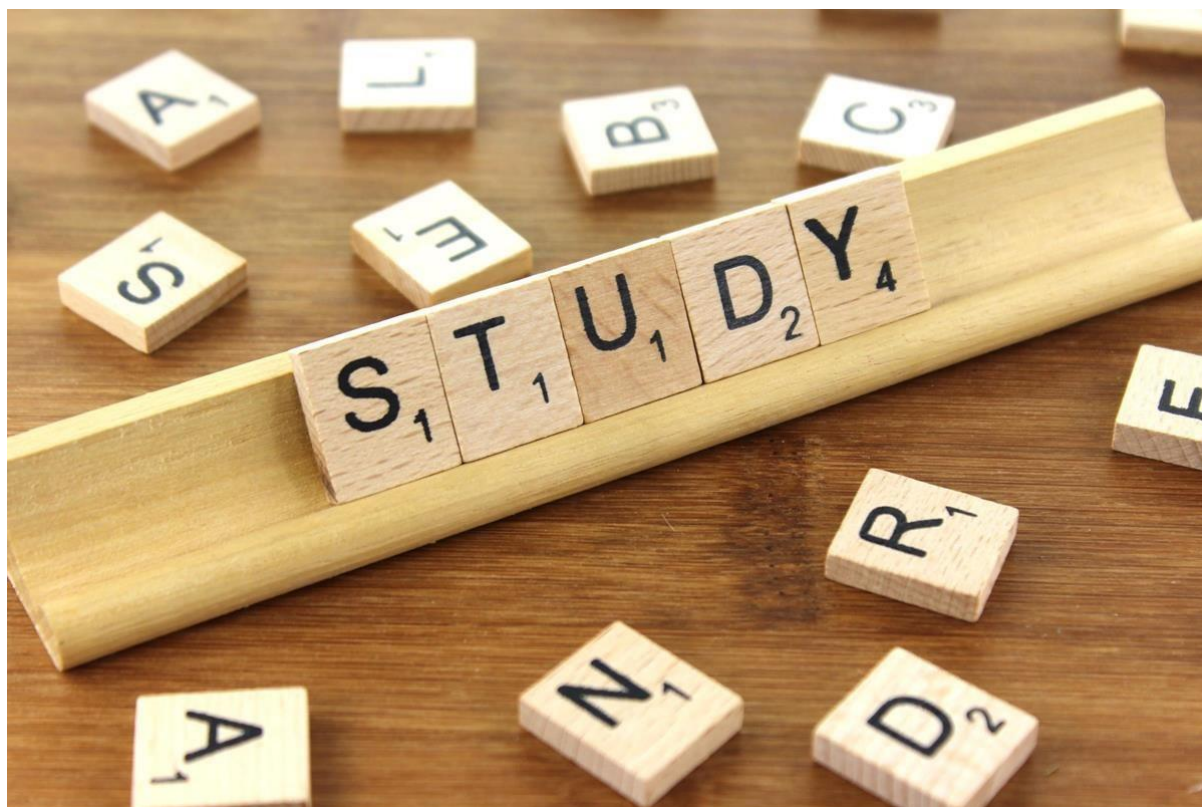
S2 MidYIS Testing

All S2 pupils will receive information about this sessions standardised testing during assembly this week. A detailed letter will be sent home to parents / carers with an explanation of the test and the process. The MidYIS testing will be completed during ICT lessons between Monday 18th September and Friday 29th September. Similar to the Cognitive Ability Testing the pupils undertook in S1, the data generated allows staff to plan learning, teaching and assessments that supports appropriate pace and challenge for all learners.

¹<https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/docs/articles/education2/schools-in-fife/school-meals/secondary-school-meals>

²<https://www.fife.gov.uk/services/form-pages/apply-for-a-school-clothing-grant-andor-free-school-mealsmilk>

Study Skills



Last week, during our Senior Phase assemblies, we were focusing on study skills and how to start with planning and the basics. We fully understand that it is a real challenge for some young people to find their niche when starting to study, but we hope these assemblies have given a helping hand to get started. We will be following these up regularly in assemblies and in PSE to help support our Senior Phase pupils.

The PowerPoint presentation below will allow you to see what was covered in assembly. Please get in touch with your child's guidance teacher if you require any information on how to support your young person with study skills and or plans.

<iframe

src="https://onedrive.live.com/embed?cid=F15A3199E2E1A848&resid=F15A3199E2E1A848%211902&authkey=Alj0tTJWbyid9lw&em=2" width="402" height="327" frameborder="0" scrolling="no"></iframe>

Education Maintenance Allowance

What is it?

- The Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is a weekly payment of £30 for young people who are in full time education and are over 16.
- All payments are made direct to the young person's bank account and it is them who must apply, with the parent's help.

- Parent's income is taken into account as part of the application. **How do I Apply?** Applications can be made online via the Fife Council website Education Maintenance Allowance | Fife Council³ However, to complete the process the young person will need a **mygovscot** account. Which can be registered for here: Register for a mygovscot Account⁴ As part of this application you will need some personal information to hand, including:
 - the parent or carer's income
 - the young person's bank account details
 - the young person's birth certificate or passport

evidence you might need to hand for this might also include:

- evidence of residency status
- an award letter (if receiving Universal Credit)
- parent or carer's Tax Credit award notice or Universal Credit letter
- parent or carer's P60 or payslip

What happened after I have applied?

The young person will be sent a letter granting the award. This will include a Learning Agreement which they must sign and hand in. This learning agreement puts conditions on payments, which must be met or they may be stopped.

What are the conditions?

The pupil will sign to agree that they:

- must ensure that the requirements of the study programme are met
- will support the school's aims and standards of conduct
- they understand the EMA may be withdrawn without warning should my attendance in any class fall below the 100% minimum requirement.
- If they are late more than 2 times in any one week the EMAA will be withdrawn for that week. It may also be withdrawn for persistent lateness over the course of a few weeks.

³<https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/docs/articles/education2/schools-in-fife/funding/educational-maintenance-allowance>

⁴<https://signin.mygovscot.org/home/?entityId=https://www.fife.gov.uk/account&sp=register/FIFVD>

Key Staff



Your child's Guidance Teacher plays a key role in supporting them to achieve success throughout their school career. They will monitor attendance, time keeping, behaviour and progress and will liaise closely with both your young person and the family home. If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch with the relevant Guidance Teacher below.

S1 and S2

Mr Simpson for classes 1C1, 1C2 and 2C1

Mrs Stewart for classes 1F1, 2F1 and 2F2

Mrs Hughes for classes 1F2, 1M1, 2M1 and 2M2

The Depute Head Teacher with responsibility for S1 and S2 is Mr Kowbel.

S3 and S4

Mrs Beesley for classes 3F1, 4C2 and 4F2

Mrs Edwards for classes 3C1, 3C2, 3F2, 4C1, 4F1 and 4M1

Mr Bowman for classes 3M1, 3M2 and 4M2

The Depute Head Teacher with responsibility for S3 and S4 is Ms McNamee.

S5 and S6

Mrs Lara Robertson

The Depute Head Teacher with responsibility for S5 and S6 is Mr Wilson.

Contact details

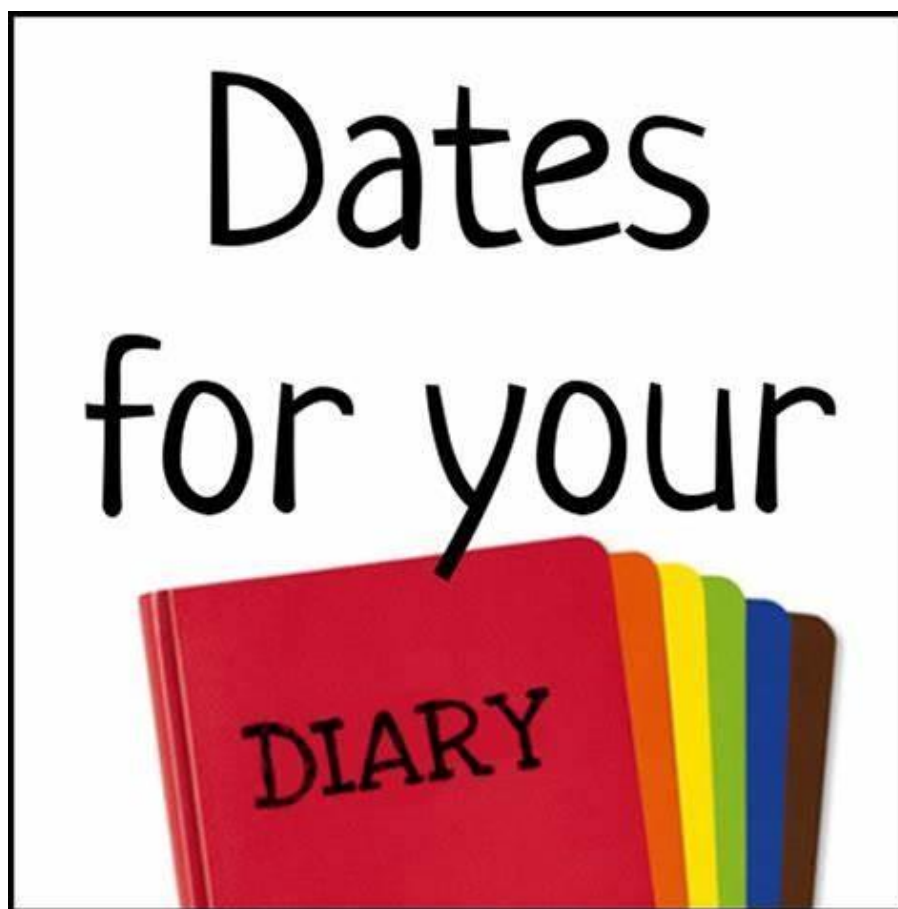


There are a variety of ways you can contact the school and we would encourage you to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns. We are working to improve the ways in which you can contact your child's Guidance Teacher and more information will follow in the near future....watch this space.

As we continue to work to improve pupil attendance at school, a reminder that if your child is unwell or has an appointment and is unable to attend school, please telephone the school office on **01592 583408** and select **option 1** for the attendance line. If the line is engaged, there is the facility to leave a message. Alternatively, you can send a text message to **07860 030879**, stating your child's name and the reason for the absence. If your child does not arrive to class, you will receive a Groupcall message informing you of their absence.

If you require support with your child's attendance, please contact your child's guidance teacher who will be happy to provide support and advice.

Dates for your diary...



Parents' Evenings

Wednesday 25th October 2023 - Senior Phase Parents' Evening (1)

Tuesday 31st October 2023 - Senior Phase Parents' Evening (2)

Thursday 16th November 2023 - Primary 7 Open Evening

Thursday 7th December 2023 - S1 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 24th January 2024 - S2 Parents' Evening

Tuesday 6th February 2024 - S3 Parents' Evening

Thursday 22nd February 2024 - Senior Phase Parents' Evening

*Please note that our parents' evening are face-to-face in the school building. These will run between 4.30pm and 7pm and further information will be shared in advance of each evening.

Term Dates 2023/24 (all dates are inclusive)

Autumn Wednesday 16th August 2023 - Friday 6th October 2023

Winter Monday 23rd October 2023 - Wednesday 20th December 2013

Spring Thursday 4th January 2024 - Thursday 28th March 2024

Summer Monday 15th April 2024 - Friday 28th June 2024

Care - Ambition - Respect - Equity