



Viewforth High School

Newsletter - 04 March 2024

Head Teacher Update

UPDATE



I hope this update finds you and your families well.

Apologies for not sharing the weekly update on Friday last week. I was out of school at a professional learning event with Mr Kowbel and Ms Jack focusing on leading improvements in learning and teaching.

A reminder if you haven't yet had the chance to complete the ParentWise survey, you can find the link to this below. By taking a few minutes to complete the survey, you are helping us to understand what we can do to improve our working relationships with parents and carers. Thank you to everyone who has already completed the survey, your time is greatly appreciated. The survey will close on the 8th March 2024.

ParentWise Survey 2024

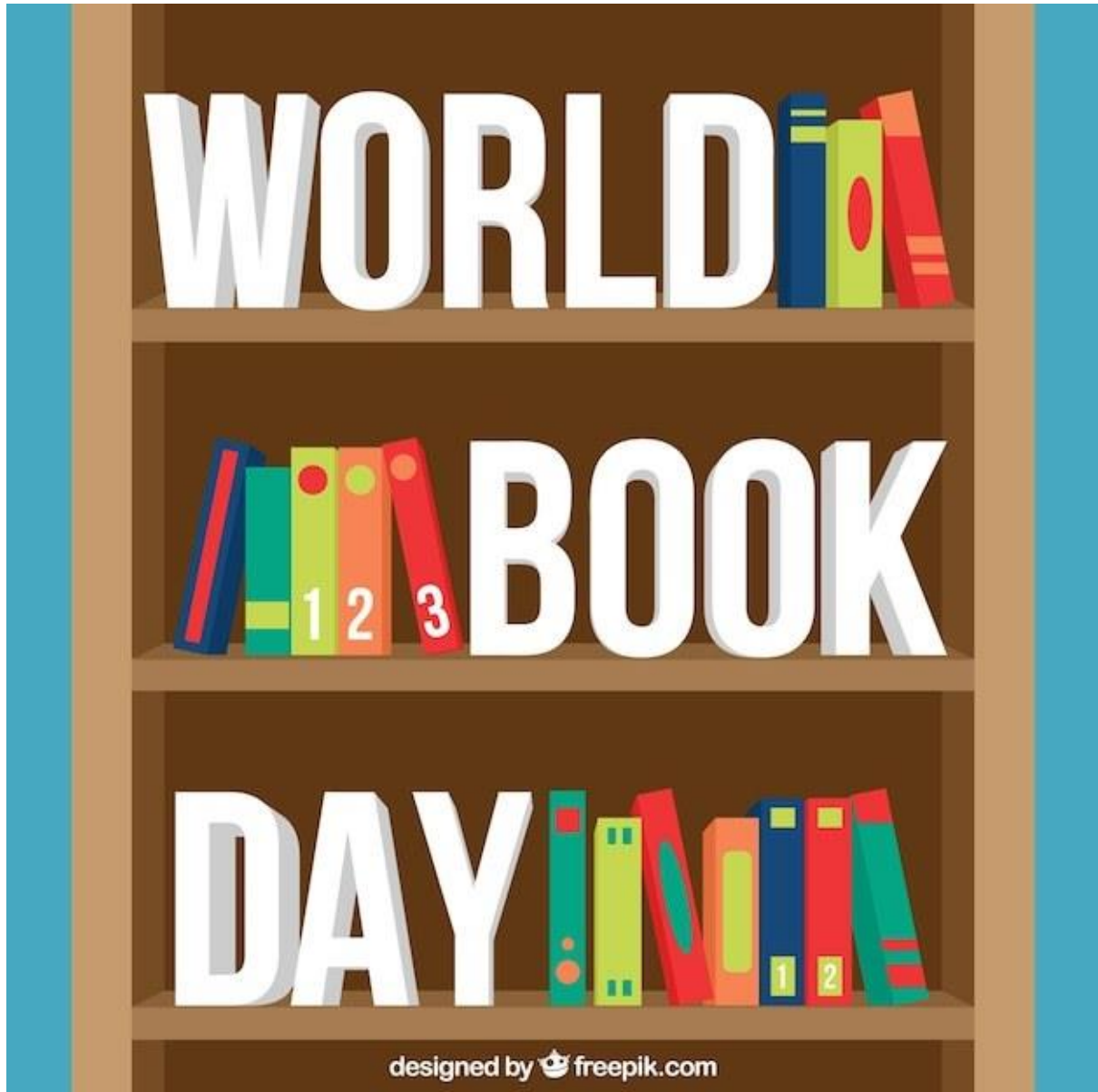
All parents / carers across Fife are invited to share their thoughts about the school that their child / children attend. The feedback from parents / carers is incredibly important to us as it enable us to listen to your views and plan improvements accordingly. We would be very grateful if you could take a few minutes to answer the questions in the survey. You can access the survey via the QR code in the attached poster.

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World Book Day



This week marks 'World Book Day' which takes place on Thursday 7th March. The English, Modern Languages & Drama Faculty are marking this day by holding a 'Bring your book to life' competition and there are three different categories that pupils can enter. The first is to create a 3D model that represents their book, the second is to write a 300 word book review and the third is to create a screen play of their book.

Pupils were informed of this competition at assemblies last week and during their English lessons, the deadline for entries is 3:10pm on Thursday 7th March. Good luck everyone!

Curriculum Pathways



Curriculum Pathway has taken place over the last two weeks. There will be an opportunity for those who have not yet made choices to catch up on Monday 4 March and Tuesday 5 March. At this point all of the choices will be progressed to the next stage in the process, meaning that no changes can be made after these dates.

SQA Change of Level Process



Post prelim analysis has now taken place and Principal Teachers will be in touch regarding suggested changes of levels for young people. These will be communicated in the form of a phone call or groupcall text message. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get back in touch with the Principal Teacher of the relevant subject or your young person's Guidance Teacher.

School Traffic Management Plan



Please find attached the school's updated Travel Management Plan. This is reviewed annually by our Business Manager and covers the usage of all parking and drop off areas for all site users of Windmill Community Campus. Although this document is updated annually, awareness of this document and its instruction is raised regularly through assemblies, school meetings and parent communications. If you have any questions regarding the Traffic Management Plan, you can contact our Business Manager, Ms Fiona Davison, via the school office.

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Scottish Apprenticeship Week

Each year Skills Development Scotland organises Scottish Apprenticeship Week (SAW), a week-long celebration of apprentices and their employers, and the fantastic contributions that they make to the whole of Scotland. This year's Scottish Apprenticeship Week will run from 4-8 March, and to tie in with this, in conjunction with our partners at DYW Fife, the Fife team will be hosting **two** apprenticeship-themed events at the following venues and dates -

- **Carnegie Conference Centre, Dunfermline - Tuesday 5th March 2024, 6pm-8pm**
- **Auchmuty High School, Glenrothes - Thursday 7th March 2024, 6pm-8pm**

The main details are as follows:

- **Aim:** To help young people from across Fife and their parents/carers, find out about Modern Apprenticeships and the wider Apprenticeship family (Foundation and Graduate) and enable local and national employers to give information about current vacancies and future recruitment opportunities.
- **Timings:** 6pm-8pm

Both events are open to pupils, parents and carers from Viewforth High School, please consider going along to one of the two events to learn more about Apprenticeship opportunities.

Cost of the school day

THE COST OF THE SCHOOL DAY

As a school we work to ensure that all young people can attend without having to worry about the cost of anything in school. This also includes things that they might need to help them attend school. There are a range of services we offer that all young people are welcome to use.

- Breakfast Club – open from 8.20 – 8.40 daily in the school café
- Sanitary Products – our Support Hub have a range of sanitary products that are free to take if needed. Many classrooms have these in class as well for young people to help themselves. These are signposted in the classes.
- School uniform – the Support Hub has a range of uniform that young people are welcome to have if needed. This includes shirts, trousers, tights, socks and jerseys among other items. Whilst pupils can ask themselves, if parents would prefer, they can phone and ask for this support on their young person's behalf.
- Toiletries – we also hold a stock of toiletries for anyone who may need them this includes shampoo, shower gel, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes.
- All families who are eligible, are encouraged to apply for free school meals. You can check your eligibility and to apply via this link: [Free school meals and school clothing grants | Fife Council](#)¹
- Also, your child may be eligible to apply for Educational Maintenance Allowance if they are over 16. You can check eligibility and apply via this link: [Education Maintenance Allowance | Fife Council](#)²
- S4-6 students are also reminded that there is a stock of study materials held in the Depute Head Teachers' office that they are welcome to use. This includes cue cards, post-it notes, highlighters and resource guides.
- Whilst all young people are encouraged to come equipped for school with their own pens and pencils, if they need anything like this they can be provided at school.

If you, or your child, have any concerns around costs associated with school you are welcome to contact the school and speak with their Principal Teacher of Guidance.

Fife Council provides a range of supports related to cost of living. More information can be found about this here: [Benefits and money advice | Fife Council](#)³

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

²<https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/docs/articles/education2/schools-in-fife/funding/educational-maintenance-allowance>

Alternatively, the our Fife Council website has a range of advice and links to support available for families.

Mobile Phones



We are working to reduce the amount of time young people are spending on their mobile phones during lessons. To support us with this, it would be very helpful if parents / carers could refrain from messaging your child(ren) during lessons. If there is an emergency, please call the school office who will arrange for your child to be contacted. If it isn't an emergency, please limit the communications to interval (10.25am - 10.40am) and lunchtimes (12.55pm - 1.40pm).

³<https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/welfare,-benefits-and-money-advice>

Viewforth HS Parent Council



The Parent Council meeting dates for this session have been confirmed and you can find these below. If you would like to attend a meeting either online or in person, please contact viewforthparentcouncil@gmail.com⁴ The meetings begin at 6pm.

Monday 11th March

Monday 22nd April

Monday 10th June

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

⁴<mailto:viewforthparentcouncil@gmail.com>

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

Mrs Campbell 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

Mr Bowman for classes 3F2, 3M1, 3M2, 4F1, 4M1 and 4M2

Ms Harris will support 3C1, 3C2 and 4C1

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

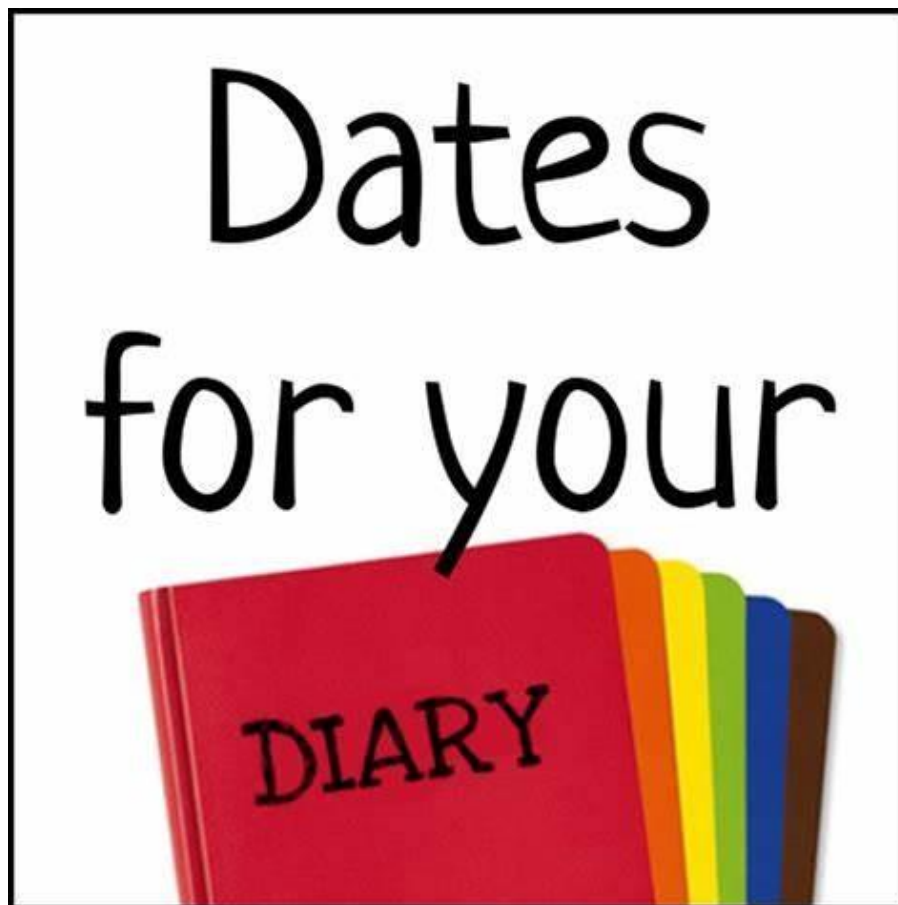


There are a variety of ways you can contact the school and we would encourage you to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

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...



Term Dates 2023/24 (all dates are inclusive)

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

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

Respect - Equity - Ambition - Community - Health