

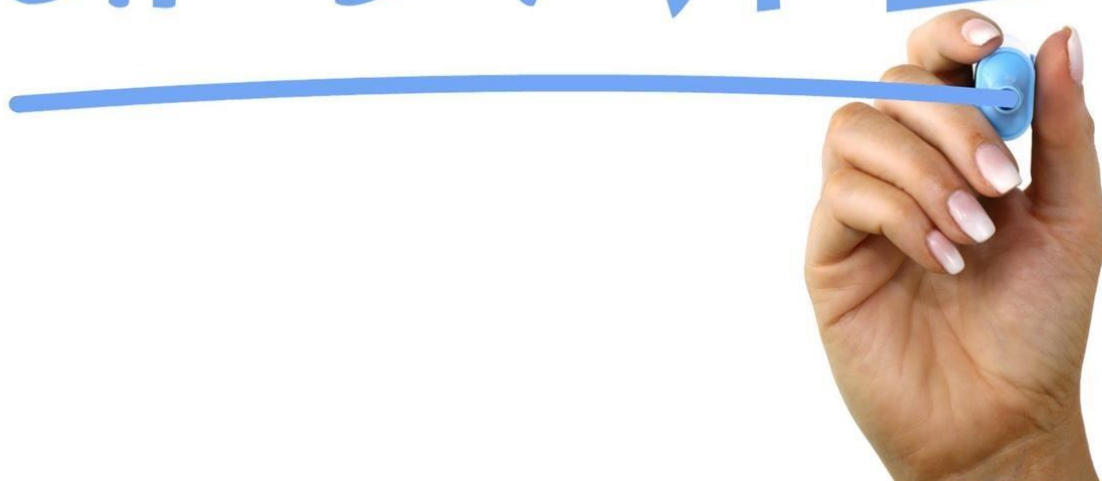


Viewforth High School

Newsletter - 28 March 2024

## Head Teacher Update

# UPDATE



I hope this update finds you and your families well.

Welcome to the last weekly update before the Easter break. It's been another busy term in Viewforth High School and I'd like to thank all parents and carers for your continued support.

On Monday of this week our young people participated in our Celebrating Success Assemblies and I'd like to thank our Chaplaincy Team for joining us for these assemblies. The focus was community and how we can work together to support each other to achieve success, and the importance of forgiveness. The young people enjoyed seeing their photographs and names on the screen in recognition of their hard work and successes throughout the term.

Ms Christie and Ms Campbell-Welsh, from our Music department, visited Edinburgh on Tuesday of this week with a group of pupils to see the musical Hamilton. This was a special performance for school pupils and schools had travelled far and wide to watch the performance. The young people (and staff) had a great time and were a credit to themselves and Viewforth HS.

Our pupils in S4, S5 and S6 will receive a copy of their progress report today. If your child is absent we will arrange for this to be posted to you to allow you to work with them in advance of the SQA exams which start on Monday 22 April. The senior pupils will also receive a copy of the study leave letter, detailing arrangements and expectations. A copy of this letter will also be shared via Groupcall.

On behalf of the Viewforth High School community, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a lovely, relaxing break. We look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school on Monday 15 April 2024.

## Preparation for SQA Exams



Our Easter Study programme has now been finalised and you can find the detail of this below. Please encourage your young person to attend the sessions relevant to them as this will allow them to engage with a subject specialist and ask any questions they may have. Pupils should sign in and out at the school office and bring snacks, water etc with them as the school café is closed during the holidays. Pupils are of course welcome to wear casual clothes and school uniform is not required.

We have also finalised our SQA Masterclass timetable (below). Attendance at Masterclass sessions will support young people with final preparations in advance of each exam, allowing them to speak with subject specialists and ask any last minute questions they may have. Please encourage your young person to attend the Masterclasses as this will give them the best chance of success. School uniform should be worn during these sessions.

Both the Masterclass and Easter Study timetables can also be found on the school website.

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## Registration for e-Sgoil's Study Support is Open!



In addition to our own Easter Study Support programme, the e-Sgoil webinar programme is a key element of Scotland's National e-Learning Offer (NeLO). It comprises of live, interactive webinars delivered by experienced, GTCS registered teachers.

A total of 74 webinars are on offer, covering 31 subjects at different levels. Each webinar group will meet for three sessions during **2 – 11 April 2024**. This provision is **free** to all learners.

Last Easter, there were over 16,000 webinar registrations and almost all learners rated the overall quality of the Easter Study Support as "excellent". The timetable, registration form, and a range of supporting documentation can all be accessed here.<sup>1</sup>

Additional resources for Senior Phase learners can be found in e-Sgoil's Senior Phase Learning Spaces<sup>2</sup> and please note that Evening Study Support webinar programme<sup>3</sup> continues during term time until the start of the SQA exam diet.

If you have any questions or queries, please get in touch with e-Sgoil<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup><https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.e-sgoil.com%2Fsenior-phase%2Feaster-study-support%2F&data=05|02||ba8a0ecf1a3744fcc0e208dc3df7dd23|84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaaa|1|0|638453381977850596|Unknown|TWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6k1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D|0||&sdata=Ei4zYaxx72TOK5oee%2FJ5CZ796QDjGWAVM9eHs22hNII%3D&reserved=0>

<sup>2</sup><https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.thinglink.com%2Fcard%2F1679198779850358786&data=05|02||ba8a0ecf1a3744fcc0e208dc3df7dd23|84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaaa|1|0|638453381977873883|Unknown|TWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6k1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D|0||&sdata=W9o5U%2BKkoZ2kbck9J3AMVz1UxeN30SwpPVfzK%2BoCIPU%3D&reserved=0>

<sup>3</sup><https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.e-sgoil.com%2Fsenior-phase%2Fstudy-support%2F&data=05|02||ba8a0ecf1a3744fcc0e208dc3df7dd23|84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaaa|1|0|638453381977881292|Unknown|TWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6k1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D|0||&sdata=utuEssN56eOT8IRks0e47OJzM11pAC48WRuG8wCUKMY%3D&reserved=0>

<sup>4</sup><https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.e-sgoil.com%2Fcontact-us%2F&data=05|02||ba8a0ecf1a3744fcc0e208dc3df7dd23|84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaaa|1|0|638453381977888026|Unknown|TWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6k1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D|0||&sdata=5isCNdk1RsRxUeYc9wERNMVjGygudEB3No9WoY0edjM%3D&reserved=0>

## OSIRIS - Staff Training



Last week saw the conclusion of the Osiris Teacher Intervention programme which a group of teaching staff have been engaged with. The final session involved a sharing of the learning that had taken place focusing on Feedback, Agency, Challenge and Engagement which are four key components of high quality teaching and learning. The group shared their specific areas of research and development through presentations reflecting on the impact the course has had on the learning within their classrooms. The group really enjoyed working with the Osiris team and the opportunity to explore learning and teaching in depth and detail. We will continue to collaborate with the Osiris team next session when a new cohort of staff will have the opportunity to engage with the programme.

## EtLoL Staff Training



This week also saw the culmination of the Excellence through Leadership of Learning programme that members of the school's Extended Leadership Team have been engaged with. The programme explored the strategic leadership of learning and explored the importance of shared clarity, relational trust and accurate self perception. The learning complements that of the Outstanding Teaching Intervention programme and collectively the programmes will support collegiate working in our pursuit of consistently high-quality teaching, learning and assessment. The school will continue to collaborate with Osiris Education with a second cohort of colleagues engaging in the programme next session.

## Café Inc



Café Inc is back across Fife during the Easter holidays for children and young people under 18. Café Inc makes sure that the Kingdom's children and young people will have at least one tasty and healthy meal while our nurseries and schools are closed during the holidays. There's no need to book, you can just turn up. All we ask is that children under 10 are accompanied by an adult, who can also have a meal. Café Inc venues will all be listed on our interactive map, which is available along with other advice and help with the Cost of Living, at <https://our.fife.scot/gethelp>

## Breakfast Club

After the Easter holiday we are changing the start time of our breakfast club to 8.30am. A reminder that all young people are welcome to come into school at this time to enjoy breakfast before the day starts at 8.46am. Pupils should remain outside the campus until 8.30am.

## 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](#)<sup>5</sup>
- 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](#)<sup>6</sup>
- 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.

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<sup>5</sup><https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/docs/articles/education2/schools-in-fife/free-school-meals-and-school-clothing-grants>

<sup>6</sup><https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/docs/articles/education2/schools-in-fife/funding/educational-maintenance-allowance>

- 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](#)<sup>7</sup>

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)**.

## 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.com](mailto:viewforthparentcouncil@gmail.com)<sup>8</sup> The meetings begin at 6pm.

Monday 22nd April

Monday 10th June

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<sup>7</sup><https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/welfare,-benefits-and-money-advice>

<sup>8</sup><mailto:viewforthparentcouncil@gmail.com>



## 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**

Mrs Campbell for classes 1C1, 1C2 and 2C1

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

Ms Barr 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

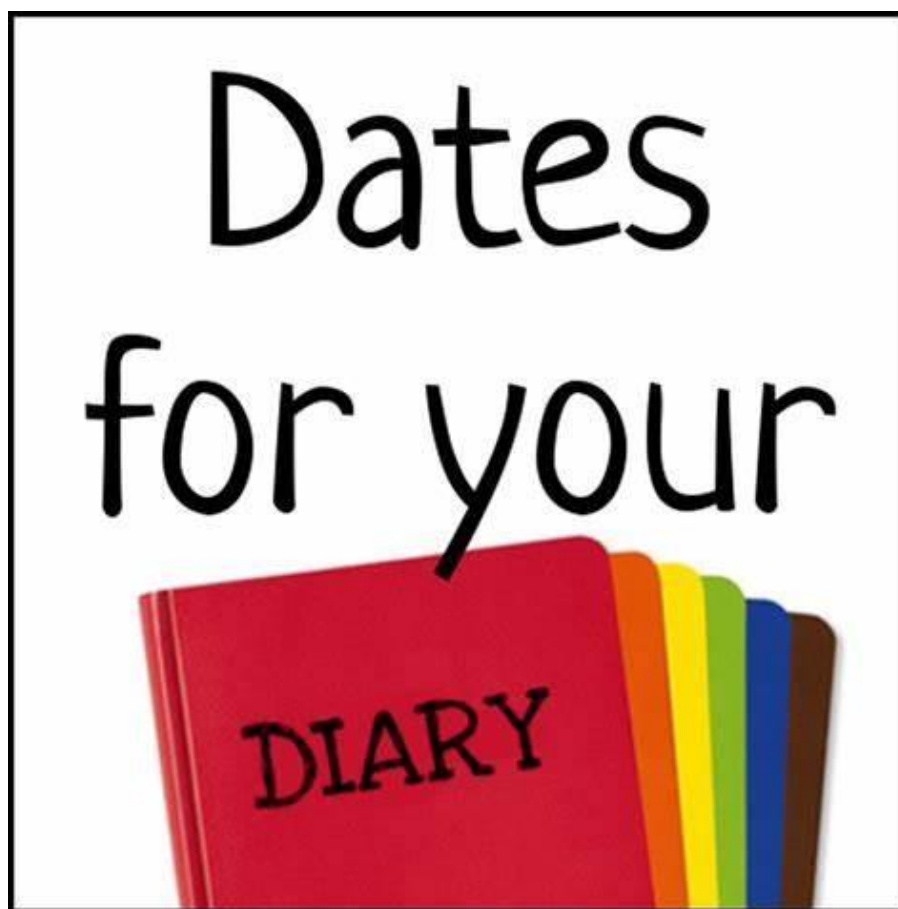


There are a variety of ways you can contact the school and we would encourage you to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

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**