

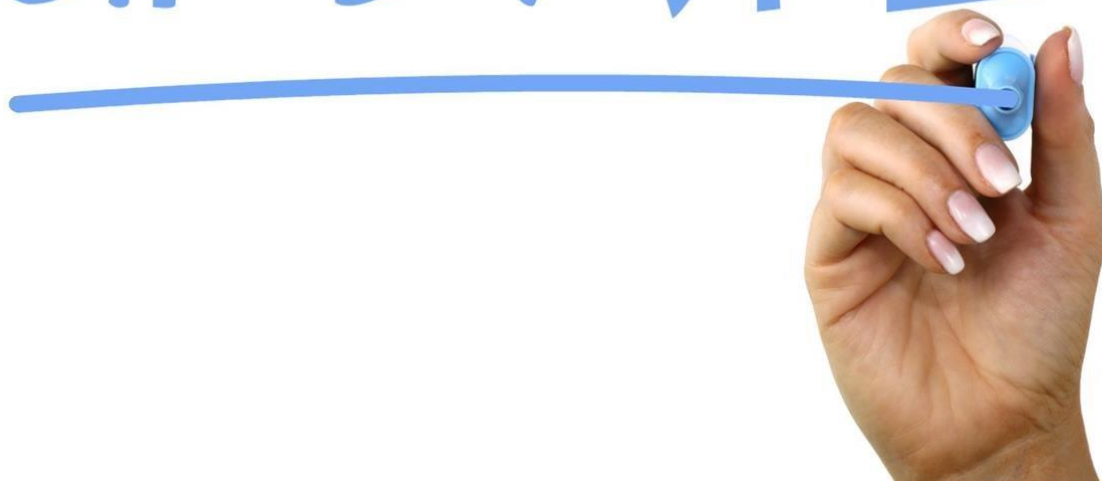


Viewforth High School

Newsletter - 24 May 2024

## Head Teacher Update

# UPDATE



I hope this update finds you and your families well.

The SQA exam diet for this session is almost complete and we have one exam left on Tuesday of next week, which is Art and Design. All senior pupils who are returning for next session are expected to be in school on Friday 31st May for their Senior Phase Induction. They should report to the assembly hall in full school uniform for 8.46am.

Pupils in S3 will receive their reports on Tuesday 28 May during period 7. If your child is absent on the day, they can collect their report from the school office the following day.

This year's Achievement Awards ceremony will take place on Thursday 20 June. You will receive an invitation over the coming weeks if your child has been nominated for an award. More information to follow.

A reminder that there is a school holiday on Monday 3 June and the school will be closed to pupils and staff.

Finally, please remember that not only does our timetable change on Tuesday 4 June, but our school week does too. Here you will find a copy of the school week to help you learn the new times. Please note that the school day starts sharp at 8.40am and pupils should be ready to report to their period 1 class at this time.

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## Digital Device Policy



The Digital Device Policy is continuing to be rolled out across the school in preparation for starting on the 4th June. The first information session for parents took place on Wednesday 15th May, a second information session will be running on Monday 27th of May. All are welcome, if you wish to attend, please sign up here<sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup>to support preparations for the evening. We are seeing a number of instances where parents are calling their children when they are in classes. We would ask parents to phone during break and lunchtimes so that lessons aren't disrupted. If, however, there is an emergency, messages can be taken to pupils via the school office. More information about the policy can be found here<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup><https://forms.office.com/e/05DXPGkuek>

<sup>2</sup><https://forms.office.com/e/05DXPGkuek>

<sup>3</sup><https://viewforthhighschool.co.uk/digital-learning/digital-device-policy/>


## Change of Timetable

# SCHOOL TIMETABLE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1 _____	1 _____	1 _____
2 _____	2 _____	2 _____
3 _____	3 _____	3 _____
4 _____	4 _____	4 _____
5 _____	5 _____	5 _____
6 _____	6 _____	6 _____
7 _____	7 _____	7 _____
8 _____	8 _____	8 _____
9 _____	9 _____	9 _____

Thursday	Friday	Notes
1 _____	1 _____	_____
2 _____	2 _____	_____
3 _____	3 _____	_____
4 _____	4 _____	_____
5 _____	5 _____	_____
6 _____	6 _____	_____
7 _____	7 _____	_____
8 _____	8 _____	_____
9 _____	9 _____	_____



All young people in S1-S3 will be issued with their new timetable on Thursday 30 May periods 6 and 7. If they are not in school for any reason, they can pick them up from the S1/2 Guidance team in the Support Hub on Friday 31 May. If for whatever reason they are absent both days, please see Miss McNamee, Mr Kowbel or Mr Wilson on the first day of the new timetable, and a new timetable will be issued. If there are any problems with any subjects on your timetable, Miss McNamee will be available from period 2 onwards on the first day of the new timetable - Tuesday 4 June.

## Primary 7 Transition



### Extra-Curricular Taster Morning

This week we welcomed our incoming S1 pupils for an 'extra curricular taster morning', the last transition event in school prior to the two day visit in June. Pupils were offered the opportunity to participate in a range of activities and clubs, meet with pupils from other schools who share similar interests and build relationships with new friends and staff. The activities on offer were Music Club,

Science Club, Drama Club, Fitness Club, Football, School of Basketball, Dance and Maths Puzzles. The feedback from staff and pupils alike was very positive and there was a real buzz about all sessions. We look forward to building on these experiences in August when many of these clubs will be available on a weekly basis.

## **Principal Teacher Seminar**

Principal Teachers of Curriculum enjoyed a collegiate seminar this week which focussed on improvements in learning, teaching and assessment. The seminar involved identifying the key features of high-quality teaching and learning and planning for learning, including reviewing our approach to learning visits. The team discussed achieving shared clarity around the learning experience and the effective leadership of learning through professional dialogue focussed on continued improvement in learning teaching and assessment. The seminar was very positive and allowed the extended leadership team to share good practice and identify collective priorities for improvement.

## **Senior Phase Induction**

Friday 31st May will see the return of our S5/6 pupils as the SQA exam diet draws to a close. They, along with S4 pupils, will receive an induction to ensure they are prepared to make the most of the opportunities available in their senior years of school. The induction will prepare them for the expectations of life in the senior phase. All young people returning for their senior years should ensure they are in full school uniform, have something to write with and be ready to engage in range of activities throughout the day. Pupils will be given their timetables, take part in goal setting and planning, complete team building exercises and receive a presentation from a community charity leader on actions of effective leaders and supporting the work of teams.

## **Social Work Senior Practitioner**

We are pleased to welcome Kim Gilmartin to the Support Team here at Viewforth HS. Viewforth is part of a pilot scheme across Fife where senior practitioners from social work, work within High Schools. Kim will work alongside the guidance and support for pupils team on planning supports for young people and families. She will also be working with families on a range of matters that support increased engagement with school and promote wellbeing for the young person and their families. If you want to contact Kim you can email the school enquiries address or phone the office and she will be happy to help you.

## 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>4</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>5</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.
- 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>6</sup>

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<sup>4</sup><https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/docs/articles/education2/schools-in-fife/free-school-meals-and-school-clothing-grants>

<sup>5</sup><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**).

## 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>7</sup> The meetings begin at 6pm.

Monday 10th June - this meeting will now take place on **Monday 17th June**

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<sup>6</sup><https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/welfare,-benefits-and-money-advice>

<sup>7</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

Mrs Hughes / 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

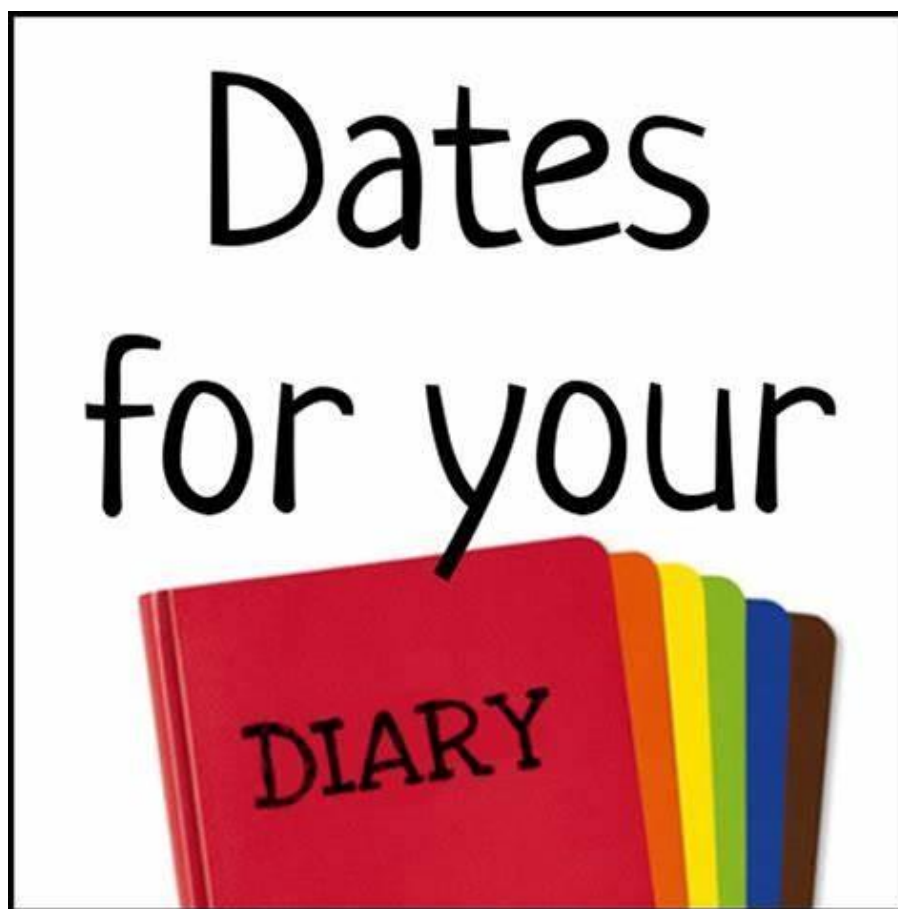


There are a variety of ways you can contact the school and we would encourage you to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

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)**

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

**Respect - Equity - Ambition - Community - Health**