



**Rutherglen High School  
Parent Newsletter  
October 2018**

I can't believe it is October already! I apologise for the delay in sending this out. Everyone has settled in well this year and I am looking forward to seeing you at the Parent evenings in November.

**Pastoral Care**

If you have any concerns please contact the pastoral care link:

S1 & S2                    Mr Jamie Longworth  
S3 & S4                    Mr Guto Williams  
S5 & S6                    Mrs Karen Watts  
Supported Classes Mrs Geraldine Johnston

**Staffing Update**

I am delighted to welcome the following staff to Rutherglen High School and look forward to working with them over the coming years:

Mr A Campbell    Technical Teacher  
Mr G Smith        RME Cover Teacher  
Mrs Y McMahon   Support Staff Assistant  
Mrs L Watson     Support Staff Assistant  
Mrs M Gray       Support Staff Assistant  
Mrs W Brown     Support Staff Assistant  
Mrs H Palmer     Support Staff Assistant  
Mr G Pollock      Support Staff Assistant  
Mrs A Morrison   Clerical Assistant

**Administration Information**

Thank you to everyone who has returned the administration forms. If you have not returned the forms (in the Parent Information Booklet) could you do so as soon as possible. The forms which need to be returned are:

- Annual Data Check
- General Consent Form
- Medical Form
- Internet Agreement
- Photographs/Video Form

Please contact the office if you need replacement forms.

**Parent Council Meetings**

The next meeting of the Parent Council will take place on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018 from 11.00am – 12.00 noon. An invitation is extended to all parents and especially to our new parents.

**Dates of Future Meeting:**

|                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2018   | 11.00am |
| Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov 2018   | 11.00am |
| Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2019   | 11.00am |
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2019    | 11.00am |
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2019  | 11.00am |
| Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2019 | 9.30am  |
| Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2019   | 11.00am |
| Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2019  | 11.00am |

**Parents Evenings**

S1 – S3

6<sup>th</sup> November 2018    4.00pm – 6.00pm  
14<sup>th</sup> May 2019         4.00pm – 6.00pm

S4 – S6

13<sup>th</sup> November 2018    4.00pm – 6.00pm  
21<sup>st</sup> May 2019            4.00pm – 6.00pm

If you are unable to make the date allocated for your son/daughters parents evening please contact the school.

**New Pupils**

Thank you to all our new S1 parents who were able to attend the meeting in August 2018. It was good to catch up with you and the feedback from parents and staff alike has been really positive. We plan to hold 'settling in' reviews in October 2018.

**School Uniform**

Thank you to all parents for supporting the schools and South Lanarkshire Council's policy on school uniform. The pupils look really smart and are a credit to the school. School uniform can still be purchased from the office. It would be really helpful if you could label your son/daughter's uniform.



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**Nut Free Zone**

We have a number of pupils with nut allergies, it would be most helpful if you could ensure that pupils do not bring nuts or products containing nuts into the school. Thank you for your consideration.

**Transport**

Several parents have contacted the school with concerns regarding transport. If you have any concerns please telephone 01698 455694

**Parent Helpers/Volunteers**

If you have any spare time on your hands and would like to come along and help us out on outings or working in school (paired reading, E cafe, lunchtime clubs etc) please contact Mrs Geraldine Johnston. Please note you will need to obtain a PVG prior to working in the school. We can arrange this for you. Thank you in anticipation.

**Mobile Phones/Valuables**

Thank you for your continued support regarding mobile phones. Could you please remind your son/daughter that mobile phones should be handed into the office at the start of the day and should be collected at home time. Also expensive items should not be brought into school e.g. iPods, jewellery etc. In the event of loss South Lanarkshire Council has no insurance cover.

**Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)**

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is eligible for pupils who are 16 or over. This award will be paid according to the total taxable household income. Payment is dependent upon attendance, attitude and behaviour.

If your son/ daughter is 16 years of age on or before 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018, they may be eligible from the beginning of the

school term. If they are 16 years of age between 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 and 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019, they may be eligible from January 2019.

Forms are available from the school Office and your local Q&A

**MacMillan Cancer Support**

Thank you to everyone who supported our coffee morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. The fantastic sum of £578.12. A special thank you to S4 World of Work / Personal Achievement Award classes for organising and catering for the event. Well done!

**Spiritual, social, moral and cultural values**

Under the terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, parents/ carers have the right to ask for their children to be withdrawn from religious observance and / or religious and moral education. If a pupil is withdrawn the school will make suitable arrangements for the pupil to participate in a worthwhile activity, in consultation with parents.

Parents may also request that their child be permitted to be absent from school in order to celebrate recognised religious events. Advance notice should be given and the absence will be recorded as an authorised absence.

The theme for our assemblies this academic session is "Fruits of the Spirit"

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018- Harvest  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – Gentleness  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> Nov 2018- Advent 1  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018 – Advent 2  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018 – Advent 3  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018 - Christmas Service



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**Duke of Edinburgh Award**

Three pupils, Frankie McGurk, Mark Watson and Asad Khan participated in a joint Duke of Edinburgh Expedition with Cathkin High School to the Pentland Hills. They had to do all their own navigation and had to be self-sufficient for the weekend including putting up their tents and cooking their own food. They camped overnight at Bonaly Scot Camp. After a stormy night, the boys packed their gear and set off on the second leg of their expedition which they completed with ease. The boys have now completed their Bronze Award and are preparing to start their Silver Award. Congratulations to Frankie, Mark and Asad. Well done!

**Inverclyde**

A number of pupils and staff recently visited Inverclyde Sports Centre for an amazing residential experience. On the first day the pupils took part in several indoor sports at the state of the art Sport Scotland facility. The activities included basketball, table tennis and gymnastics. In the evening pupils enjoyed the use of the cinema room and had time to chill out with friends. On day two, the pupils took the ferry over to Millport and took part in watersports, cycling at Cumbrae Sports Centre. The pupils were interviewed and asked about their experience and said they “couldn’t wait to go back”.

**Eco News**

We are delighted to confirm that the school has once again been successful in attaining Green Flag award status. The topics for this submission included Litter, Health and Wellbeing and Biodiversity. The school has been commended by Eco Schools for the way in which curricular links have been developed and the emphasis placed upon emotional, mental

and physical wellbeing. Our recent Eco Day was very successful and provided pupils with opportunities to engage in a range of activities including litter picking, pond dipping with the Friends of Holmhills group, wildflower planting at Blairbeth Urban Greenspace and also a session on Global Goals. We will now continue our journey with a focus on Litter, Waste Minimisation and Global Citizenship.

**RCRE**

S6 Caritas pupils from Trinity High, Rutherglen have been working with our RC pupils. They have been looking at the “Jesus Our Teacher” icon and will be working together to create a video for the church in need. Pupils have already attended a Peace Day celebration at Trinity High and will be joining them on a trip to Carfin on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018. Some of our senior pupils will be taking part in the Caritas Award Scheme which is run by the Catholic Church and is for all faiths and none. This will be launched on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

**Summary of School Improvement Plan**

Please find enclosed a summary of the School Improvement Plan 2018/19 and Progress Report for School Improvement Plan 2017/2018. A copy of the full School Improvement Plan 2018/19 and the Standards and Quality Report are available on the school website.

**Jan Allan  
Head Teacher**



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