

HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT TO THE PARENT COUNCIL

Tuesday 27 September 2022

Science Refurbishment

The main refurbishment work has been completed and we are now waiting on the final touches such as blinds and new roller board panels. The snagging work will be completed in the October holidays. Despite the disruption, staff are delighted with the upgraded rooms and new furniture.

Visit by Education Scotland

Two Education Scotland inspectors visited the school on Thursday 15 September 2022 as part of a national review of how schools support and promote positive behaviour. They talked to staff and pupils and reviewed the activities we do in school to promote our school values, positive relationships and positive behaviour. They also looked at our anti-bullying policy and how we record and monitor incidents of bullying. It was a very positive visit and they praised the school's proactive approaches to promoting a school culture which will not tolerate bullying behaviours. The school has shared their feedback with all parents via letter and pupils will hear the key messages at their next assembly.

Senior Phase and UCAS Information Evening

This took place on 14 September. It was a busy event attended by parents and pupils from S4 to S6. We spoke about getting the most out of the Senior Phase and preparing for SQA assessments; shared information about UCAS including dates and deadlines and two of this year's pupils shared their stories and advice about applying to university.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Seventy-two young people in last year's S3 signed up for the Bronze award last year. So far over 50 have completed and L McAndlish, our DofE worker, is currently running sessions to support the rest to finish any outstanding elements. We are delighted so many of our pupils have taken advantage of this great achievement opportunity. Last week, Mr Gardner held an information session for parents and pupils in the new S3 who will begin the experience this year. This was very well attended. We also have groups of young people completing silver and going for gold this year.

S6 Leadership and Learning Ambassadors

Every year we expect our S6 to contribute to the school or the community in some way. This year's S6 are already making a difference. As well as the Captains and House Captains who are organising Children In Need Week, the Buddy Breakfasts and the House Challenges, we have a significant number who are volunteering in classes or at Forehill and Grammar Primary Schools every week. This is a big commitment for the S6s but the confidence, skills and qualities that they gain from the experience is very worthwhile. We also have Music and Language Ambassadors who are working with the local primaries.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 29 and Friday 30 September – S1 Buddy Breakfasts

Wednesday 5 October – Open Evening for S3 Parents

Thursday 6 and Friday 7 October - Flu Vaccine for all pupils and staff

Friday 7 October – McMillan Coffee Morning organised by House Captains

Friday 14 October – school closes at 2.50pm for the October holiday

Monday 24 October – In-service day