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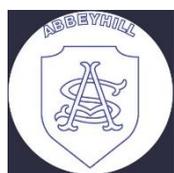
Dear Drummond Community,



I am delighted to welcome all the families of our cluster primary schools to my regular Headteacher bulletin.



Not all the information will be pertinent to you, or the P7 families involved in transitioning up to Drummond, but I wanted to include you all because in these difficult circumstances, and with the transition process for our new S1 pupils looking very different, one comforting and warming silver lining is that the feeling of community has really strengthened, not just for Drummond staff and families, but for all of us as we all work more closely together and support each other.



I hope that you will find our news interesting and that until it helps you feel more connected to Drummond in these isolated times.

It has been a real pleasure getting to know more primary colleagues as we staff the Drummond Hub together, and Mrs Ketchin, Mrs Gowan, Ms Dunn, Ms Sharp (DHT at Drummond) and I continue to work closely to plan the transition of P7 pupils to Drummond. We are also very pleased to welcome a number of P7 pupils coming to Drummond from outwith catchment.

Dates to note

Change of timetable for new S2 and S3: Monday 25 May.

Parent Council remote meeting: Tuesday 26 May 7pm.

Leaving date for S4 pupils: Friday 29 May.

Transition from P7 to S1

Ms Sharp will be in touch with all P7 parents and carers to confirm their place at Drummond and let them know of plans being made for remote transition while schools are closed, and as we have more information about when and how schools will reopen. There is a separate tab on our website <https://drummondhigh.org/> for transition so if you are a P7 parent with children coming up to Drummond please visit this area regularly for updates.

We will be offering P7 pupils the opportunity to ask teachers and pupils questions about Drummond as part of the transition process and Ms Sharp will give you further details about this shortly.

Staffing

I am delighted to let you know that Mrs Sloan has been appointed to the permanent DHT post. Her remit broadly centres on Curriculum Pathways, Learning & Teaching, Developing the Workforce and currently, home learning.

We are very much looking forward to Mr Ammann, Teacher of Computing Science, taking up post on 1 June, and Mrs Currie, part time ICT Technician, hopefully shortly after this. Mr Ammann will be in touch with his classes via Teams.

We will also be welcoming NQTs in Mathematics and English in August.

The Teacher of Music and Teacher of Support for Learning posts will be interviewed for shortly and the Teacher of English post is currently advertised.

We are very sorry to say goodbye to Mr John Flynn, our lovely janitor, who takes up a new role as Head Janitor at Craighour Park Primary School. We wish him all the best in his new post.

Eco Club update

The Drummond Eco-Club have been busy, even in these strange times, as their application for Green Flag status has been accepted by Keep Scotland Beautiful and the process can now be continued apace. This has led to lively debate in our Teams group regarding an image we think represents the group and which three factors we are going to focus our attentions on.

The logo debate is still ongoing, but the areas we will be focusing on are litter, the school grounds and biodiversity- which means having two scientists as part of the group will be jolly useful! There are a lot of plans in place for when we go back to school and Mr Inglis is currently putting some green feelers out to create a wild flower section of the school, to both improve biodiversity and brighten up the grounds. These were areas identified in our group self-evaluation of the school that could be improved.

In non-Green Flag news, the recycling bins selected for the concourse should be winging their way to us soon and even Drummond's uniform is getting an Eco-Club makeover as the new S1s are issued with school ties made from recycled materials!

Every step of the journey will be recorded and if anyone would like to join the Eco-Club, let Mr Tuft know.



S1 & S2 rainbow project

We always enjoy seeing what our students have been working on at home, and inspired by this symbol of hope created by Pop artist Peter Blake and the rainbows appearing in windows across Europe, students were asked to create their own positive images and these are attached to this bulletin.

S2 Superpower project

Two S2 English classes were working with The Superpower agency (<https://superpoweragency.com/>) on the theme of 'What makes me special' between January and March this year and their stories are now being published in our very own Drummond anthology. There will be a copy for all S2 pupils who were involved, one goes to the National Library and local shops will also be selling copies. Most unfortunately, due to lockdown restrictions, we won't be able to have the launch event we had planned but will celebrate when school re opens. Gerald thoroughly enjoyed working with our pupils and is looking forward to returning later in the session to work with new classes.

New timetable

S3, S4 and S5 year groups moved up a year into new Senior Phase courses last week and subject teachers have been creating new class Teams for all new S3-S6 classes and setting work there. Many teachers are reporting back that this progression in learning is motivating more pupils to engage with online learning and we continue to monitor pupils' engagement with a view to offering support to those who are finding it more challenging.

Current S1 pupils will move into new S2 courses on 25 May. These new S2 pupils will be accessing their home learning, as well as daily registration, via our website from Monday 25 May, instead of on Teams, and this will hopefully allow pupils, (and their parents/ carers!) to structure their day and week more effectively.

Home learning

Mrs Sloan is Drummond's Home Learning Link and is posting a weekly bulletin on the website and app, as well as emailing it to all Drummond parents.

Buddies

Traditionally S5 and S6 pupils have buddied the P7 pupils on the transition days and for the first few weeks of S1 to help them settle in. However, we have been so impressed by the maturity and confidence of our current S1 pupils that we will be offering a number of them the opportunity to be buddies for the P7, and think that the closeness of age and stage in their school career is a real positive in this process. Several Senior pupils will be asked to assist with S2s in their buddying roles. More details will follow.

Moving into S6

There are several opportunities in S6 for our young adults to develop their leadership skills and a priority is to appoint Heads of School and Depute Heads of School. These are key positions within the school and I will email out application forms and the details of the roles to S6 pupils this week. Interviews will be held on Teams.

Senior Phase prefects

All pupils from S4-S6 can apply to be a prefect. I greatly value all our prefects, Heads of School and Depute Heads of School for their supportive role in the school such as promoting the school, helping at events, leading visitor tours and helping with dining hall supervision at lunch time. Existing S4 and S5 prefects can continue into next year, and again I will email application forms to Senior Phase pupils this week.

North East news

Please see attached news for our locality.

SQA

We are working closely with the SQA to ensure accreditation for our Senior Phase pupils in August. You can see the full statement issued on Monday 20 April here: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/93920.html>.

Please note that in line with local guidance we will not be releasing course estimates to pupils or parents and would want to reassure you that we are all committed to doing the best we can for your children at this challenging time.

Look after yourselves and best wishes,



J Hannan

Headteacher

