

Winter Newsletter 2019-20

We hope you enjoy reading our latest newsletter which can be found [here](#) and it testament to the great work and achievements of our young folk and staff here at Mackie Academy.

Uniform

Thank you once again to parents for their support with uniform. Overall our young folk look very smart in and around the school and represent us exceptionally well when they are out at events.

A gentle reminder that the expectations around uniform can be found on the school website and that the following items do not form part of the school uniform:

Jeans and leggings

Hoodies

It is also the expectation that pupils wear the relevant school tie at all times. If ties need to be purchased you can do so from the school office.

We would also ask if parents can ensure that when pupils come to school in PE kit that they remember to bring their school uniform with them for the remainder of the school day.

Staffing Changes

A reminder that whilst Mrs Larkworthy (DHT) is on maternity leave Mrs Davidson, PT Pupil Support Dunnottar House and Mrs Hamilton, Faculty Head of English, will be acting up in the role of Depute Head Teacher, taking on the role 50% of the time each. Behind this Mrs Birrell will be Acting PT Pupil Support for Dunnottar House (50%) to support Mrs Davidson and Mr Meikle will be Acting Faculty Head of English (50%) to support Mrs Hamilton.

For those parents with young folk in Dunnottar House Mrs Birrell will be your PT Pupil Support and Attainment if your child is in S1-S3. Mrs Davidson will retain this role if your child is in S4-S6.

Parent Council Meeting: Thursday, 16th January 2020

The next Parent Council meeting is at 7pm on the above date. The group is meeting in G8 this time as we are discussing Enhanced Provision and Additional Support for Learning should anyone wish to come along and join in the discussions.

If you wish to do so and are not currently part of the Parent Council please contact them via their email address, which is mackiepc@hotmail.co.uk, if you wish to attend.

S3 Pathways Evening: Monday, 20th January 2020

A reminder for those of you who have children in S3 it is soon their first opportunity to design their curriculum choice. The purpose of this evening is to give you, as parents, the opportunity to attend short workshops about the different pathways that are available for young people to follow beyond the Senior Phase and to learn more about what they need to think about in making their subject choices for S4.

The evening will start at 18.00 and finish at 19.30. Further information will follow in a separate email this week and we look forward to seeing you there.

Scotland's Biggest Parents Evening: DYW North East - Thursday, 30th January 2020

Scotland's Biggest Parents' Evening is returning on January 30, 2020, to showcase apprenticeships, their benefits and how to get involved. Stay tuned for more [#bigparentseve](#) information in the coming weeks. If you wish to register to attend the event in Aberdeen you can do so [here](#).

Advance Warning: Estimate Exams and Senior Phase Information Evening

The Estimate Exams will take place from Monday, 20th January 2019 for two weeks. Senior Phase pupils will return to school and lessons on Monday, 3rd February 2020. Exam timetables are with pupils and parents can access the master timetable on the school website. If parents have any concerns about their child's exam timetables they should contact Mrs Elaine Davidson, who has taken over the role of SQA Co-ordinator whilst Mrs Larkworthy is on maternity leave.

The Senior Phase Pathways Evening will take place on Monday, 10th February 2020 from 17.00 - 19.00 and is an opportunity for all S3-S5 parents to find out more about the options and pathways open to pupils as they move into S4, S5 and S6. It is a great "one stop shop" to see subjects, Further and Higher Education providers, employers, Skills Development Scotland and many more so please make sure you put it in your diaries.

Attendance and Pupil Illness

For any pupil who has been sick and a parent has phoned in to say so they will be marked appropriately in their absence record for a 24 hour period. If the period of sickness lasts longer parents do need to phone into school on a daily basis to confirm this. This is to ensure accuracy of attendance records and limit inaccurate information being recorded. Thank you for your understanding on this matter.