



Dunblane High School

NEWSLETTER

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 4

School News

WELCOME OUR NEW S1!

Our new S1 pupils have made a very impressive start! Their conduct, attitude and demeanour have been first class—they are a credit to their families and school. We would like to thank all parents, but particularly those new to the Dunblane High School community, for the tremendous level of support for the school that is evident in uptake of the new uniform particularly in the new S1.

SQA Exam Results

The first results of the new National 5 exams have proved to be highly satisfactory. Over 67% of our S4 achieved 5 or more awards at 'A-C' (SCQF Level 5) the third highest total on record. Our Higher results this year have again set new records for the % of our young people who achieved passes in 3 or more Highers and in 5 Higher. In addition a record number of S5 pupils (23 in total) - achieved 5 passes at 'A'. Though there are always disappointments for some, overall our young people and their parents can be justly proud of this year's examination achievements. As a consequence this success we have had unprecedented demand for Advanced Highers across a range of subjects and an unprecedented number of new S6 looking for changes to their course choices from June. Both of these factors have presented challenges for timetabling the upper school but we are confident that in the vast majority

of cases satisfactory arrangements can be made.

Focus on Effort

In recent years we have had a whole school focus for all year groups on EFFORT rather than ability. We will continue this in 2014-15 by beginning the session with a focus on POSITIVE ATTITUDES and individual EFFORT. This will be the main focus of the Interim Reports on S3, S4 and S5/6 due to parents just before or just after the October break. All S3-6 teachers will be asked to rate their students' 'Effort' using grades derived from the HMIE 6 point scale shown below:

6 - Excellent 3 - Satisfactory
5 - Very Good 2 - Weak
4 - Good 1 - Unsatisfactory

Following these Interim Reports the following awards will be made:

S3: 8+ 'Excellent' or 'Very Good' grades for 'Effort' in subjects - 'Pupil Praise Card'; 'Excellent' in all subjects - MERIT BAR (dark blue).

S4: 7+ 'Excellent' or 'Very Good' grades for 'Effort' SQA subjects - 'Student Praise Card'; 'Excellent' in all subjects (including 'Core' subjects) - MERIT BADGE (bronze).

S5: 5 'Excellent' or 'Very Good' grades for 'Effort' SQA subjects - 'Student Praise Card'; 'Excellent' in 5 subjects - MERIT BADGE (silver).

S6: 3+ 'Excellent' or 'Very Good' grades for 'Effort' SQA subjects - 'Student Praise Card'; 'Excellent' in 3+ subjects + evidence of service - MERIT BADGE (gold).

The school policy document on Max-

imising and Recognising Achievement can be viewed on the school website. In S4-5, students who do not meet the criteria for a Praise Card will have another opportunity to rectify the situation by taking part in the MIE (Monitoring Individual Effort) Card scheme after the October break.

PUPIL SUPPORT TEAMS 2014-15

S1 & S6 Mrs Hook DHT;

Mrs Sutherland PT PS (S1)

Mrs S Hansom PT PS (S6)

S2 Mrs Imrie DHT;

Mrs K Gunning PT PS

S3 Mrs Imrie DHT

Mr G Boyce PT PS

S4 Mrs Wilkinson Senior DHT

Mr A Ritchie PT PS

S5 Mrs Wilkinson Senior DHT

Mr R McMaster PT PS

P7 Parents

Once again we are including parents of P7 children in our partner primaries in our Newsletter mailing list. We hope this will ensure good communication during the transition year.

Parent Council

Parent Council meeting for 2014-15 will take place in the McCarron Room at 19.15 on the following dates: 25/8/14; 6/10/14; 1/12/14; 19/1/15; 9/3/15; 18/5/15 (AGM). Parents wishing to contact the Parent Council should phone the school office in the first instance.

Staffing News

Several new staff have joined us this term. We welcome Ms L Heneghan, Ms J Sweeney and Mrs E Ross (Maths) and Ms F Clark (Modern Studies) who have all taken up temporary posts with us. In addition

we are hoping to be able to make a permanent appointment in Maths before the October break.

Additional In-Service Day November 2014

The Scottish Government has allo-

cated an additional Inservice Day to secondary schools as part of the preparation for the new CfE Higher courses this session. This already appears on the new Parents' Calendar issued to parents and posted on the school's website from where will be updated as required.

DATES TO NOTE

S6 Parents' Information Evening Thursday 28 August 19.00 Murray Hall

S1 Individual Photographs Thursday 9 October 2014 (+ S6 Group photograph)

October Holiday

School closes: Friday 10 October 15.25
Re-opens: Monday 20 October 09.00

Contact Details

Tel: 01786 823823
Email: dunblanchs@stirling.gov.uk



PTO

School Activities

Below is a list of sports clubs and activities on offer at lunchtime and after school. Please encourage your son/daughter to participate and give something a go. Most activities started from Monday 25th August 2014.

DAY	ACTIVITY	TIME	STAFF
Monday	Girls Fitness	15.30-16.30	Ms Campbell
	S1 Boys'Football	15.30-16.30	Mr Scougall
	S2 Boys'Football	15.30-16.30	Mr Farrell
	S3 Boys'Football	15.30-16.30	Mr Ross
	Samba Band	15.30-16.30	Mr Cooper
	Guitar Group	Lunchtime	Mr Baird
	Trad Group	Lunchtime	Mrs Spencer
	School Orchestra	15.30-16.30	Music Staff
Tuesday	Samba Band	15.30-16.30	Mr Cooper
	Fitness Suite	Lunchtime	Mr Scougall
	S1/2 Boys Choir	Lunchtime	Mr Boyce
	S1/2 Girls Choir	Lunchtime	Mrs Gunning
	Chamber Ensemble	Lunchtime	Mr Cooper
	Show Rehearsals	Lunchtime	Music Staff
Wednesday	S1/2 Badminton	15.30-16.30	Mrs Sweeney
	Boxercise	15.30-16.30	Mr Ross
	Running S1-6	Lunchtime	Mr Ritchie
	Wind band	Lunchtime	Mr Orr
	Gymnastics	15.30-16.30	Mr Ritchie
	Basketball	15.30-16.30	Mrs Waller
	Rugby	15.30-16.30	Mr Cooper
	Girls' Football	15.30-16.30	Miss Porter
Thursday	School Choir	15.30-16.30	Music Staff
	Sen Badminton	15.30-16.30	Dr Irvine
	Hockey	15.30-16.30	Mrs Waller
	Table Tennis	15.30-16.30	Mr Ritchie
	Catch Up Orchestra	Lunchtime	Mr Cooper
	Show Rehearsals	15.30-16.30	Music Staff
Friday	School Show Band	Lunchtime	Music Staff
	Sen Girls Barbershop	Lunchtime	Mrs Grant

S6 COUNCIL 2014-15

Head Boy

Matthew McKinney

Depute Head Boys

Alain Kadar

Matthew Peters

Daniel Polatajko

Congratulations to our new S6 Council.

Head Girl

Anna Steen

Depute Head Girls

Caitlin Fotheringham

Anna Goodfellow

Ellie Crozier

House Captains 2014-15

House Captains Vice Captains

Kilbride Callum Davidson Angus Cameron

Emily Batchelor Caroline Hilley

Ramoyle Daniel Polatajko Michael Gay

Rachel Kelly Kirsten Mackie

Sheriffmuir Aaron Wilson Jack Steven

Kim Wilson Kirsty Macaulay

Congratulations to our new House Captains and Vice Captains .

Awards Ceremony

for Session 2013-14

Awards for S1-6 for session 2013-14 will be made at our annual ceremony in Dunblane Cathedral on **Thursday 11 September**. Guest of Honour will be the new Director of Children Young People and Education for Stirling and Clackmannanshire **DAVID LENG**. As well as the traditional awards for academic attainment, awards will be made for Personal Achievement and Service. The rationale and criteria for awards can be viewed on the school website.

Dux Medal: Ziad Farah-Alanie Promime Accessit: Ellen Couper

McCarron Medal: Emilie Turner

Invitations to attend the Ceremony (2 per Awardee) will be issued via pupils with parents be alerted by text message.

New 'National' Qualifications

The vast majority of our S4 will sit 7 external examinations at National 5 level in 2015.

New Qualification

Previous Qualification

National 5 replaces SG Credit & Intermediate 2

National 4 replaces SG General & Intermediate 1

National 3 replaces SG Foundation & Access 3

National 5: externally assessed using A-D scale.

National 4: internally assessed as 'Pass' 'Fail' only.

National 3: internally assessed as 'Pass' 'Fail' only.

Dunblane High School ~ OPT-OUT FORMS

1. Photograph / Video OPT-OUT

Photographs and occasionally videos are taken in school of school events/classes for publication in educational documents / websites / news items. If you would prefer your son / daughter **not** to feature in any such way please sign this **Opt Out Slip** and return it to the school office **by Friday 5 September 2014**

Pupil's Name _____ Class _____

I do not wish my son / daughter named above to appear in photographs / videos prepared in school for educational publications/websites/news items.

Signed: _____

2. EDMODO OPT-OUT

The educational website EDMODO is now in widespread use across Scottish schools. If you would prefer your son / daughter **not** to be provided with login details for access to this site please sign this **Opt Out Slip** and return it to the school office **by Friday 5 September 2014**

Pupil's Name _____ Class _____

I do not wish my son / daughter named above to be provided with login details for access to this site.

Signed: _____