**Head teacher weekly update**

**Friday 4th October 2021**

Dear Parent / Carer,

I trust this update finds you and your family in good health and ready for a restful and relaxing October break.

I seem to write all too frequently that it has been a challenging time in school, and this certainly applies to the August – October term. Covid restrictions are still a feature of school life, however we continue to hope that eventually we will again hold year group assemblies, Christmas concerts and of course, bring parents’ evenings back into the building. In the meantime, we continue to push on with the core business of learning and teaching whilst doing our best to look after our young people; mentally, emotionally and physically.

Here is the news for week 4-10 October 2021

1. **Foodbank collection**

I am delighted to inform you that as a result of our non-uniform day on Friday 8th October we collected an amazing 64 crates of donations for the Renfrewshire Foodbank. This smashed our previous record of 51 crates.

A brilliant effort from all pupils, and a special note of thanks to the S6 volunteers who pulled it all together.

1. **Pupil behaviour and conduct**

I have written a separate letter to parents that will be sent to you electronically over the October holidays. The SMT will be meeting with pupils when we come back from the break to remind them about our expectations around uniform, mobile phones and general behaviour and conduct.

1. **Football**

The boys U15 team have been in action but sadly lost 5-6 to Inverclyde Academy. Godspower (3), Logan and Kenzie were the goal scorers.

1. **Extra-curricular programme**

Our extra-curricular programme has now been published on twitter and the website. Please encourage your child(ren) to get involved.

<https://www.johnstonehigh.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Extra-Curric-booklet-2021-2022-new-2.docx>

<https://www.johnstonehigh.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Extra-Curricular-Clubs-2021-2022-1-1.xlsx>

1. **Week beginning 18th October 2021**

This is shaping up to be an incredibly busy week in school. Here is our diary for 18th – 22nd October:

* 1. In-service on Monday: Pupils should NOT attend school. Staff will be undertaking further training on nurturing approaches and specialist LGBT+ training as we bid for gold chartermark status.
  2. S4 assessment week starts on Tuesday 19th – Monday 25th October. The schedule has already been published and shared with pupils and parents.
  3. S3 are having a health and wellbeing day on Wednesday 20th October with a range of inserts from partners. Topics will include physical and mental health, meditation, drugs and alcohol, anti-bullying, trauma, the criminal justice system and counselling/mental health.
  4. Tempest photos are taking place for S1+S3 on Thursday 21st October.
  5. Flu vaccination for all pupils and staff is taking place on Friday 22nd October.

I hope you and your family have a great break and I look forward to welcoming pupils back into the building on:

**Tuesday 19th October at 8.45am for an 8.50am start**

With very best wishes to you and your family,



Lynne Hollywood

Head Teacher