**Head teacher weekly update**

**Friday 4th March 2022**

Dear Parent / Carer,

Here is all our news for week ending Friday 4th March 2022:

1. **Staffing news**

Mr Munro, DHT with responsibility for S5/6 has decided to retire and leaves us at the end of this month. Mr Munro has been a DHT in Johnstone High School since 2007 and has made a huge difference in the lives of so many young people and families. He will be very much missed by all of us, not least myself as Mr Munro has been a fabulous support to me, and valued friend and colleague, for many years. He has plans to travel extensively and write more books, and we wish him every happiness and good health for his retirement.

Mrs Davidson, PT Music, has been successfully appointed as acting DHT and we wish her good luck in her new role.

We also congratulate Mr Menzies who was recently appointed to Renfrewshire Council one day per week to lead on senior phase pathways, link with West College Scotland and progress ‘STEM’. Mr Menzies will be at HQ each Wednesday and started his new role this week. Ms Price, PT Modern Languages, will be acting DHT for Mull house on a Wednesday.

Finally, this week marks the start of the recruitment drive to appoint teachers into our schools for August 2022. JHS is interviewing for permanent staff in Home Economics, Biology, Maths, PE, History and Business Education. As a result, I will be involved in interviews extensively over the next few days.

1. **Reminders about expectations**

A small number of pupils are currently causing staff some concern as they are not living up to our high expectations. This presents, most typically, in one of the following ways:

* Late for school in the morning, or late for class during the day
* Wearing PE kit (leggings and sports tops) all day rather than uniform
* Asking out of class
* Phones out when they should be in bags

We would be very grateful if parents emphasised the importance of good manners and behaviour in school. However, it’s very important to acknowledge that most of our pupils come to school on time every day, follow instructions and live up to our school values. My thanks to them – super stars, each and every one.

1. **The easing of covid restrictions**

This week saw the easing of restrictions with face masks going in classrooms. Fingers crossed that they will go in corridors and social spaces very soon!

1. **S1 parents’ evening**

A reminder that the next virtual parent’s evening takes place on Thursday 10th November 4.30 – 7pm. Mrs O’Malley DHT has contacted parents and I would encourage parents to make appointments as soon as possible.

1. **Options**

Pupil option interviews start week beginning 7th March. If you have any questions or queries please don’t hesitate to speak to your child’s pastoral teacher or DHT on 0300 300 1331.

1. **Photos**

On Wednesday this week we had Tempest photography in school for the first time since the pandemic, and this represents another vitally important step in the road back to ‘normal’. Pupils in S5 and S6 had both an individual photo and a group photo. Proofs (containing ordering instructions) went home in the school bag.

Thanks to parents for making sure the young people looked so smart!

1. **World Book Day 3rd March 2022**

Well done to the English dept for their efforts to promote world book day on Thursday, including delivering an online lesson for p7s, reading in classes and some staff even dressed up! I’m sure it brightened up lessons for pupils and put a welcome focus on the importance of reading for pleasure.

1. **Forthcoming dates for your diary**

Monday 7th March options interviews start

Thursday 10th March S1 virtual parents’ evening

Friday 11th March S1/S2 HPV injections

Monday 14th March S4-6 practise exams start

Friday 1st April Non-uniform and last day of term

Tuesday 19th April Start of summer term

With best wishes to you and your family,

**Yours sincerely,**



Lynne Hollywood

Head Teacher