



11th February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

As always, the term from January to April is particularly busy in school. We are 6 weeks into term and already there has been lots happening. Detailed below are a few updates, news and reminders.

Upcoming Events

Thursday 13 th February	Non-uniform day (suggested donation of £1 available to pay on ParentPay)
Friday 14 th February	School closed to pupils (In-service day)
Monday 17 th February	School Holiday
Tuesday 18 th February	School Holiday
20/2/25 – 12/3/25	S2 and S4/S5 options process
Thursday 27 th February	S2 pupil progress evening
Thursday 13 th March	S1 pupil progress evening

SQA update

Due to the recent changes to the SQA exam timetable we have made changes to our end of year arrangements for our S6 pupils. The arrangements are:

Tuesday 22 nd April	S6 pupils will spend the day at Lapwing Lodge
Wednesday 23 rd April	S6 Graduation
Thursday 24 th April	Exam leave starts for S4/5/6 pupils
Friday 25 th April	SQA Exams start

Please ensure your child checks the updated exam timetable to see if there has been a change in the day and/or time of their SQA exams.

Events

- P7 pupils from our associated primaries came to Johnstone High School in January for our Ceilidh. There were excellent Scottish dancing skills on display and it was lovely to see our P7 pupils having fun.

- We held our wider achievement ceremony on Friday 17th January. As always it was a pleasure to see so many of our young people receive recognition for all the fabulous achievements they have attained both in and out of school.
- All pupils had a lesson insert to commemorate holocaust memorial day on 27th January 2025 which was the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. AH History pupils went to Garnethill Synagogue and heard from 3 second generation holocaust survivors.
- We are currently working towards our Gold Reading Schools award.
- We are keen to work in partnership with parents to try to get funding for projects that will improve the school environment and experience for our young people. If you would like to get involved in helping with this, please contact the school.
- We celebrated children's mental health week with a number of activities including a silent disco for all year groups.
- We had our options evening which was well attended. Colleges, universities, careers staff and teaching staff were all available to answer questions. We hope you found the evening helpful.
- Pupils organised a coffee morning to raise funds for Lisa's gift which is a charity that has been very generous in supporting a number of our young people.

Celebrating Success

I had the pleasure of having hot chocolate with our pupils who had been nominated for recognition of displaying our school values and embracing our positive relationships policy on a consistent and regular basis.

Community

We have had a few concerns raised from our local community about Johnstone High Pupils dropping litter at break/lunch and on occasion being disrespectful in how they are speaking to members of the community. Please remind your young person about appropriate conduct and disposing of litter appropriately both in and out of school grounds. We thank you for your support in this matter.

Uniform

There has been an increase in the number of young people coming to school who are not wearing full school uniform or appropriate school shoes. We would ask for your support with this. School ties are available to purchase on ParentPay and can then be collected from the school office. A reminder that leggings, jeans, shorts, hooded tops/branded tops are not acceptable school uniform.

Attendance/Timekeeping

A reminder about the importance of good attendance and timekeeping at school. This has a huge impact on the attainment and well being of our young people. We want all our young people to

attain as highly as possible to maximise their opportunities. Good attendance at school plays a key role in this. Thank you for supporting us with this.

I wish all families in our Johnstone High Community a wonderful February break and look forward to welcoming back our young people on Wednesday 19th February 2025.

Yours sincerely,

Tracy O'Malley
Acting Head Teacher