



**Rutherglen High School  
Parent Newsletter  
December 2020**

**Welcome**

Welcome to the December edition of our newsletter. As always life at Rutherglen High has been very busy. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support during these difficult times. Your son / daughter has been a credit to you and has coped so well with the new routines within the school. Thank you. I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2020.

**Free School Meals Covid-19 Update**

South Lanarkshire Council are pleased to announce some new financial supports for families who have children or young people in school entitled to Free School Meals. This does not include those entitled to universal provision of P1-3 meals.

· Winter Fuel Payment

South Lanarkshire Council has approved a scheme to make a one-off payment of £50 to support with winter fuel costs, for families of pupils entitled to free school meals. This does not include those entitled to universal provision of P1-3 meals.

· £100 Winter Payment

South Lanarkshire Council has approved a scheme to make a one-off payment of £100 to families of pupils entitled to free school meals to support with winter costs such as Christmas presents, food, fuel and other essentials. This does not include those entitled to universal provision of P1-3 meals. This payment is per child; families will receive £100 for each eligible child.

· Free School Meals Payment for Pupils Self-isolating

South Lanarkshire Council has approved a scheme to make a one-off payment of £30 to parents/carers towards the cost of lunch for pupils eligible for free school meals but unable to attend school due to requiring to self-isolate as part of the Test and Protect Scheme. This does not include those entitled to universal provision of P1-3 meals.

· Free School Meals Payments During School Holiday Periods

The Scottish Government have provided Local Authorities additional funding for pupils currently in receipt of Free School Meals (this does not include those entitled to universal provision of P1-3 meals), to receive a free school meal payment for the following school holiday periods:

Christmas 2020 One-off payment of £30

February 2021 Mid Term Break One-off payment of £9

Spring Break 2021 One-off payment of £33

· Free School Meals Payment for Pupils Shielding During Tier 4 Lockdown Period

Any pupils eligible for free school meals and in receipt of a letter from the Chief Medical Officer advising they should not attend school and should shield for the 3 week period from Monday 23rd November 2020 to Friday 11th December will receive a one-off free school meals payment of £45 if they actually shield and do not attend school. This does not include those entitled to universal provision of P1-3 meals.

· £500 Self-isolation Support Grant



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From 7th December the Scottish Government is giving a £500 Self Isolation Support grant to families if they are:

- The primary carer or parent of a child who has been asked to self-isolate by Test and Protect or the school AND
- They receive low income benefits AND
- Are employed or self-employed and will experience reduced earnings because you have to stay at home to look after your child.

More information, including information on eligibility and how you can apply for this self-isolation grant can be found on the SLC website.

The SLC Website contains more detailed information for parents/carers including information on eligibility, how this will be paid and a Frequently Asked Questions section. Please refer to this information in the first instance.

#### **Head Boy and Head Girl**

I am delighted to announce that two of our S6 pupils have been appointed Head Boy and Head Girl.

Head Girl: Kirsty Falconer  
Head Boy: Lewis Kelly

We wish Kirsty and Lewis every success in their new leadership roles

#### **Parent Council Meetings**

The next meeting of the Parent Council will take place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021 from 9.30am – 10.45am. A warm invitation is extended to all parents. This will be a virtual meeting.

The Parent Council is your voice in the school and can make a difference to the experience and education your son/daughter receives at Rutherglen High. You can contact the Parent Council on [theparentcouncil@glow.sch.uk](mailto:theparentcouncil@glow.sch.uk)

#### **Dates of Future Meetings:**

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021 @ 9.30am  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021 @ 9.30am  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 @ 9.30am  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 @ 9.30am  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021 @ 9.30am  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021 @ 9.30am

The links of these meetings will be posted on the school website and school app.

#### **School Uniform**

Thank you to all parents for supporting the school's and South Lanarkshire Council's policy on school uniform. The pupils look really smart and are a credit to the school. School uniform can still be purchased from the office. It would be really helpful if you could label your son/daughter's uniform.

#### **House Captains and Vice Captains**

The following pupils have been appointed House Captains and Vice Captains.

##### **Selkirk House**

House Captain	Molly McBride
Vice- Captain	TJ Kerr
	Sabrina Anghel

##### **Jedburgh House**

House Captains	Mason Heron
	Jay Dignall

##### **Kelso House**

House Captain	Angela Clemente
Vice - Captain	Jo Jo McGowan

We wish our Captains and Vice Captains every success in their new roles.



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**Nut Free Zone**

We have a number of pupils with nut allergies, it would be most helpful if you could ensure that pupils do not bring nuts or products containing nuts into the school. Thank you for your consideration.

**Transport**

A few parents have contacted the school with concerns regarding transport. We work very closely with SLC transport however if you have any concerns please telephone **0303 123 1023**

**Bridgeton Burns Arts Competition**

I am delighted to announce that the following pupils have been successful in Bridgeton Burns Arts Competition:

Lochlainn Whyte	1 <sup>st</sup> Prize
Ethan Blake	2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize
Hayden Lindsay	3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize

Congratulations to all our wonderful artists in their fantastic achievements

**MacMillan Fund Raiser**

Thank you to everyone who took part in the non-uniform day to raise funds for MacMillan Cancer Support. The fantastic sum of £80.05 was raised. Well done!

**Mobile Phones/Valuables**

Thank you for your continued support regarding mobile phones. Could you please remind your son/daughter that mobile phones should be handed into the office at the start of the day and should be collected at home time. Also expensive items should not be brought into school e.g. iPods, jewellery etc. In the event of loss South Lanarkshire Council has no insurance cover.

**Spiritual, social, moral and cultural values**

Under the terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, parents/ carers have the right to ask for their children to be withdrawn from religious observance and / or religious and moral education. If a pupil is withdrawn the school will make suitable arrangements for the pupil to participate in a worthwhile activity, in consultation with parents.

Parents may also request that their child be permitted to be absent from school in order to celebrate recognised religious events. Advance notice should be given and the absence will be recorded as an authorised absence.

**Staffing Update**

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Natalie O'Hara who has joined Rutherglen High School as a Support Staff Assistant. We look forward to working with Natalie over the coming years.

**Toy and Food Donations**

A big thank you to everyone who donated Toys for Happy n Healthy Community Development Trust and who donated food for Camglen Food Parcel Support. The response was overwhelming and your generosity has been outstanding. Both organisations were grateful for your contributions. These donations will be distributed to families within the Cambuslang and Rutherglen area.

Thank you also to our S6 pupils who organised this collection as part of their Personal Achievement Award. Well done S6

**Fund Raising for Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity**

Congratulations to Angela Clemente who raised the staggering sum of £4460 for Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity. This money was raised by Angela cycling



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round a local circuit over the course of many weeks. As well as raising this fantastic amount for charity, Angela has also now completed the Volunteering Section of her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. A fantastic achievement. Well done Angela.

**Success at Blantyre Soccer Academy**

Well done to Corey Hayton, Liam McCallum and Brandon Connor who recently received awards from Blantyre Soccer Academy. Liam won the trainer of the year award, Corey won the most improved player award and Brandon won a top goal scorer award. Well done to all three boys for all their hard work and efforts.

**Achievements Out of School**

Please let us know of your son/daughter's achievements out of school. This will allow us to recognise it at our monthly assemblies and to publish their success (with your permission) on our website and in newsletters.

Thanking you in advance.

**Christmas Activities**

Pupils can wear Christmas jumpers / clothing in the run up to the Christmas holidays. Please do not feel the need to go out and buy a Christmas jumper or top. We have a supply of Christmas accessories in the school which pupils can have free of charge.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions Christmas activities have been amended to ensure the Health and Safety of everyone within the school.

Pupils will either undertake activities as a class group, year group or as part of their S1-S3 or S4 – S6 bubble. Social distancing, cleanliness and wearing of masks will all be adhered to.

9<sup>th</sup> December 2020      Christmas Lunch

10<sup>th</sup> December 2020

11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

14<sup>th</sup> December 2020

15<sup>th</sup> December 2020

16<sup>th</sup> December 2020

17<sup>th</sup> December 2020

18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

21<sup>st</sup> December 2020

22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020

S3 Advent Assembly  
S4 Advent Assembly  
Christmas Treasure Hunt (Year Groups)  
Outdoor Winter Disco (S1-S3 & S4-S6)  
Christmas Film (Class Groups)  
S5 Advent Assembly  
Christmas Quiz (Class Groups)  
S6 Advent Assembly  
Santa Dash (S1-S3 & S4-S6)  
Christmas Service (Class Groups)  
Christmas Bingo (Class Groups)  
School Closes 2.30pm

Photographs of our Christmas activities will be available on the school app.

**Finally**

I would like to thank all the staff for their support and commitment throughout this incredibly challenging year and who deserve their well-earned rest.

I would also like to wish Mr McLean a very happy retirement and would like to thank him for his dedication to the school and taking forward many initiatives including Health Promotion, Health and Well-being and Nurture. Mr McLean will be sadly missed within the school community.

**Jan Allan  
Head Teacher**



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