



**Rutherglen High School
Parent Newsletter
September 2019**

Welcome

Welcome back, I can't believe it is September already. We had 21 pupils joining S1 which brings our roll up to 107. Everyone has settled in really well and all the pupils look really smart in their uniforms. Everyone here at Rutherglen High is looking forward to working with you and your son/ daughter this year. If you have any concerns please contact the pastoral contact:

S1& S2 Mr Jamie Longworth
S3 & S4 Mr Guto Williams
S5 & S6 Mrs Karen Watts
Supported Classes Mrs Geraldine Johnston

Staffing Update

I am delighted to welcome the following staff to Rutherglen High School and look forward to working with them over the coming years:

Mrs J Bellingham DYW Teacher (0.6)
Mr W McEvoy English, ASDAN
Mrs M Matheson General Cover
Dr R Millar Science Teacher
Mrs K Robertson Social Subjects (0.4)
Mrs G Rosenberg RME Teacher
Mr G Smith General Cover

Congratulations to Ms B Kennedy who has been appointed as an autism outreach teacher with South Ayrshire Council. We wish Ms Kennedy every success in her new post.

Administration Information

Thank you to everyone who has returned the administration forms. If you have not returned the forms (in the Parent Information Booklet) could you do so as soon as possible? The forms which need to be returned are:

- Annual Data Check
- General Consent Form
- Medical Form
- Internet Agreement

- Photographs/Video Form

Please contact the office if you need replacement forms.

Parent Council Meetings

The next meeting of the Parent Council will take place on Thursday 26th September 2019 from 9.30am – 10.45am. An invitation is extended to all parents and especially to our new parents.

Dates of Future Meetings:

Thursday 24th October 2019 @ 9.30am
Thursday 21st November 2019 @ 9.30am
Thursday 9th January 2020 @ 9.30am
Thursday 6th February 2020 @ 9.30am
Thursday 5th March 2020 @ 9.30am
Thursday 23rd April 2020 @ 9.30am
Thursday 21st May 2020 @ 9.30am
Thursday 18th June 2020 @ 11.00am

Parents Evenings

S1 – S6

5th November 2019 4.00pm – 6.00pm
11th November 2019 4.00pm – 6.00pm

S1 – S6

12th May 2020 4.00pm – 6.00pm
19th May 2020 4.00pm – 6.00pm

If you are unable to make the date allocated for your son/daughters parents evening please contact the school.

New Pupils

Thank you to all our new S1 parents who were able to attend the recent meeting. It was good to catch up with you and the feedback from parents and staff alike has been very positive. We plan to hold 'settling in' reviews in October 2019.

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



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from the office. It would be really helpful if you could label your son/daughter's uniform.

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**

Congratulations

Congratulations to Mr Graeme Muir and his wife on becoming parents again! Twins Knox and Noelle arrived safely on Friday 31st August. All well and big sister Devon is delighted.

Parent Helpers/Volunteers

If you have any spare time on your hands and would like to come along and help us out on outings or working in school (paired reading, E cafe, lunchtime clubs etc.) please contact Mrs Geraldine Johnston. Please note you will need to obtain a PVG prior to working in the school. We can arrange this for you. Thank you in anticipation. It's always great to see our parents in school.

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.

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is eligible for pupils who are 16 or over. This award will be paid according to the total taxable household income. Payment is dependent upon attendance, attitude and behaviour.

If your son/ daughter is 16 years of age on or before 30th September 2019, they may be eligible from the beginning of the school term. If they are 16 years of age between 1st October 2019 and 28th February 2020, they may be eligible from January 2020.

Forms are available from school Office and your local Q&A and are on the intranet

MacMillan Cancer Support

The World's biggest coffee morning is happening again this year. S2 & S3 World of Work classes are organising a Coffee Morning on Thursday 26th September 2019 from 10.00am – 11.30am. Entry is £2.00 for adults and £1.00 for pupils and children. Any donations for the raffle will be greatly received. I look forward to seeing you then and thank you in anticipation for your ongoing support for this worthwhile cause.

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



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and the absence will be recorded as an authorised absence.

Our school chaplaincy team is:
Alison Kennedy Reachout Trust
Deacon B McMillan St Columbkille's RC Church
Ross Murray Reachout Trust
Rev J Sanderson United Reformed Church

The themes for our assemblies this term are:

Thursday 5th Sept 2019 – New Beginnings
Wednesday 2nd Oct 2019- Love and Care
Thursday 10th Oct 2019 – Harvest Service

Art Achievements

Struan Robb has recently had his artwork displayed at the Art Projectability Exhibition.

Well done Struan!



Summary of School Improvement Plan

Please find enclosed a summary of the School Improvement Plan 2019/20 and

Progress Report for School Improvement Plan 2018/2019.

A copy of the full School Improvement Plan 2019/20 is available on the school website.

Date for the diary: Thursday 7th November 2019

We are urging as many parents as possible to come along to our Self Evaluation presentation on Thursday 7th November 2019 @ 9.30am

At this meeting you will find out about the school improvement planning process and how you can help us with this.

Home Economics

Pupils are asked to contribute £1.00 per week towards the cost of Home Economics. This should be paid on the day that your son/daughter has Home Economics. If you have any concerns regarding this, please contact your pastoral care link. Please note all pupils will participate in the lesson regardless of payment.

Sporting Achievements

Congratulations to Jay Dignall who represented South Lanarkshire Council at the Sports Disability Scotland National Event at Grangemouth in June 2019. Jay won bronze medals in both the shot-putt and 50 metres. Well done Jay!

Parent Support Group

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent Parent Support Group. The next meeting will take place on Thursday 10th October 2019 where there will be a presentation by the Carer's Network for South Lanarkshire.

Go Ape Fund Raiser

6 members of staff decided to go to Go Ape during the holidays for a fun challenge and to raise money for school funds. We completed the treetop challenge



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including a large number of obstacles high in the trees, Tarzan swings and zip lines. It was a good team building experience and some of us managed to overcome our fear of heights (at least for the day!)

We hope pupils and their families will support us by offering a small contribution. All money raised will go directly into school funds supporting our young people. Thank you in advance, The "Go Ape team" - Joanna Bellingham, Louise Coyle, Natalie Mardones, William McEvoy, Lynsey Robertson & John Sanderson



Well done to the Go Ape team!

Parent Workshops

The school is offering a series of workshops this year to keep parents informed of what we are doing in numeracy and literacy. They will be on Thursday mornings from 9.15am – 10.15am

Thursday 3rd October 2019

“Supporting your child in literacy and numeracy at home”

Thursday 5th December 2019

“Using worksheets – Christmas Themes”

More details will be sent out in due course. If you require any further information please contact Ms Coyle (Literacy) or Mrs Robb (Numeracy)

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.

**Jan Allan
Head Teacher**