



NEWSLETTER APRIL 2018

It has been an incredibly busy start to the new term. Exams, completing coursework and assessments, finalising option choices for next year, school show rehearsals and school trips have been keeping pupils, staff and parents/carers very busy indeed. As always, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support.

Staff Update

Following recent interviews, Mr Kenny Pullen has been appointed as permanent Depute Headteacher. Mrs Becky Anderson will continue in post as Acting Principal Teacher Maths and Numeracy until a permanent appointment has been made.

Mr Andy Campbell has been appointed as a teacher of Business Education. Mr Campbell will be joining us from Maxwelltown High School

Miss Sophie Nisbet, currently a probationer teacher of Maths at Dumfries High School, has been appointed on a permanent contract and will remain with us from this point forward.

There are a number of other staffing positions currently being recruited and I will update you with information once these have been filled.

S4/5/6 SQA Exams

SQA exams for all pupils undertaking National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher Qualifications begin on Monday 30 April. All pupils have been issued with individualised exam timetables with all of the required information. We wish all of our senior pupils good luck with their exams.

S3 Exams/Parents' Evening

S3 pupils will also be starting a week long period of exams on Monday 30 April. This is the first time S3 pupils will be sitting exams at DHS in this way. The experience of completing these exams will help to prepare the pupils for the S4 prelims in January of next year. It will also prove to be a useful benchmark to assess pupil progress at this point in time.

The rescheduled S3 Parents' Evening will take place on Thursday 17 May between 4pm – 6pm.

Electronic Newsletter (Sway)

Hopefully everyone will have received the 'groupcall' text message sent out at the end of term prior to the Easter break that included the link to our electronic school newsletter. This was also sent out just prior to the Christmas break.

The newsletter helps to celebrate the successes that our pupils have both within and outside of school. The electronic version has replaced the paper copy that was previously sent out and allows us to include video clips and animations as part of the newsletter itself. Could I please ask that changes to mobile phone numbers are updated at the main office as required.

An electronic newsletter will be sent out at the end of each term just prior to holidays at Christmas, Easter and Summer. At the start of the following term, I will send out a newsletter update such as this to communicate important information to all parents and carers.

School Show

Dumfries High School will this year be performing 'School of Rock' as our school show. Rehearsals are well underway for what I am sure will be another great show. Performances will take place on Tuesday 12, Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 June 2018. Please purchase tickets from the main office as they are selling quickly. (Adult £10, Child/Concessions £5)

P7 Transition Days

Our new S1 cohort will be attending Dumfries High School on Wednesday 20, Thursday 21 and Friday 22 June. We will be welcoming many pupils from a number of different schools to life at Dumfries High School and we look forward to seeing them here in school.

Play-in-a-Day Drama Project

Primary six pupils from our associated cluster schools will be attending Dumfries High School during week commencing Monday 11 June to participate in our award winning 'Play-in-a-Day' Drama project. P6 pupils will write, direct and perform a play dealing with issues surrounding social media. They will have the opportunity to demonstrate their work with an afternoon performance to parents and carers invited to watch the results of their hard work.

Uniform

When S4/5/6 pupils are on study leave completing SQA exams, there will be an increased focus on the standard of uniform amongst our S1/2/3 pupils.

Dumfries High School uniform consists of black shoes, black trousers/skirt, white shirt, black v-neck jumper/cardigan, school blazer and a school tie. The vast majority of our pupils look incredibly smart and wear the uniform with pride. Jeans, hoodies and tracksuit tops are not part of school uniform and therefore pupils should not wear these to school. As always, your support with this is greatly appreciated.

Junior Prizegiving

This event will take place on Thursday 31 May. Stephen Temlett, who is a reporter with Dumfries and Galloway Standard will be our guest speaker. Stephen is an ex-pupil of DHS and we look forward to hearing his address to our S1/2/3 award winners. Further information will follow about this evening.

Community Litter Picks

Dumfries High School pupils have been working very hard over recent months to improve litter issues in our local communities. Classes of pupils have been carrying out litter picks in conjunction with The People's Project on a weekly basis. Each registration class have carried this out on a rotational basis and I would hope that you can see a significant difference in areas around the school.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 7 May 2018	May Day holiday
Thursday 17 May 2018	S3 Parents' Evening 4-6pm
Wednesday 23 May 2018	S1 Parents' Evening 4-6pm
Thursday 31 May 2018	S1/2/3 Junior Prizegiving
Tuesday 12 – Thursday 14 June 2018	'School of Rock' school show
Friday 29 June 2018	End of term

Best wishes once again