



## NEWSLETTER APRIL 2019

I would like to welcome everyone back to the final term of the school year. School trips, SQA exams, Prizegiving Celebrations, change of timetable, sporting activities and many more things will be sure to keep pupils, staff and parents/carers incredibly busy as we work towards the Summer break.

### Staff Update

Mrs Becky Anderson who has been Acting Principal Teacher of Maths, Numeracy, Business and Computing has now secured the post on a permanent basis. Congratulations to Mrs Anderson on her appointment.

There are a number of other staffing positions currently being recruited and I will update you with information once these have been filled. We are also waiting to hear which Probationer teachers will be allocated to Dumfries High School for the next academic year.

### S4/5/6 SQA Exams

SQA exams for all pupils undertaking National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher Qualifications begin on Thursday 25 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.

Exam leave officially begins for senior pupils who are eligible on Monday 29 April. Fourth year pupils not eligible for exam leave will be undertaking an Employability course and have received instruction from Ms Kilmurry as to the requirements during this time.

The whole-school timetable will change on Monday 3 June. All year groups will move forward as pupils begin new courses and subjects of study.

### S3 Exams

S3 pupils will also be starting a nine-day period of exams as from Monday 29 April. 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.

It goes without saying that third year pupils should approach these exams in a focused, positive and mature manner to ensure they attain as highly as they possibly can.

### Guid Nychburriss Celebrations 2019

As part of the Guid Nychburriss celebrations this year, Dumfries High School was invited to select the Queen of the South, Attendants and Key Bearers to take part in the processions.

I am delighted to announce that this year's Queen of the South is Abbie Davidson; Attendants are Josie Findlater and Emma Conchar with Gemma McQueen and Olivia Kerr carrying out duties as Keybearers. All five girls are in fourth year at DHS. Callen Love (S6) will sing 'Queen of the South' at the Plainstones as part of the crowning ceremony on Saturday 15 June.

This is a fantastic honour for all six pupils and the school as a whole. I am sure you would like to join me in congratulating everyone involved in the celebrations and wish them well for a successful Guid Nychburriss 2019.

### **Charity Fashion Show**

Dumfries High School will this year hold a Charity Fashion Show on Wednesday 12 June starting at 7pm in the main school hall. This event is designed to raise awareness of local charities, the fundraising work that they do and the support that they give to our local community. Further information will come out about this event in due course, but please save the date.

### **P7 Transition Days**

Our new S1 cohort will be attending Dumfries High School on Wednesday 19, Thursday 20 and Friday 21 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.

### **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 20 June. Graham Anderson, owner and manager of Dumfries Community Radio will be our guest speaker. Graham 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 continues to work with Tesco and Storey Homes to secure additional litter bins to place in Summerpark to address litter issues within our local community. Please emphasise to your son and/or daughter the importance of disposing of litter correctly to ensure that we can all keep our local area clean and take pride in our community.

### **Dates for the Diary**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Thursday 25 April 2019                  | SQA Exam Diet Begins   |
| Monday 29 April 2019                    | SQA Exam Leave Begins<br>S3 Exams Begin (finish Friday 10 May) |
| Monday 6 May 2019                       | May Day Holiday  |
| Monday 13 May 2019                      | S1 Paris Trip Departs (Returns Friday 17 May)                  |
| Friday 17 May 2019                      | S1 Reports Issued  |
| Thursday 23 May 2018                    | S1 Parents' Evening 4-6pm                                      |
| Wednesday 29 May 2019                   | S2 Berlin Trip Departs (Returns Saturday 1 June)               |
| Wednesday 12 June 2019                  | Dumfries High School Charity Fashion Show                      |
| Wednesday 19 June – Friday 21 June 2019 | P7 Transition Days to DHS                                      |
| Thursday 20 June 2019                   | S1/2/3 Junior Prizegiving Celebration – 7.30pm                 |
| Friday 28 June 2019                     | End of Term  |

Kind regards

