

Weekly Update – 20th December

Christmas and New Year Holiday

The school closes today at 12.30pm today for the Christmas and New Year holiday. We re-open to pupils at 8.30am on Thursday 9 January 2020 following two In Service training days for staff. We wish all our families a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year and look forward to working with you in the coming decade!

Pathway Information Evenings for Parents

We have a number of Pathways Information Evenings for parents planned to explain how pupils will make their choices for next session. These events take the form of a presentation about the number of courses pupils will take, the different opportunities open to pupils and the types of qualifications that can be gained. There will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end of each session. Young people will be getting this information through assemblies, and so it is not necessary that they attend these events (though they would be welcome to attend). There is no need to notify us of attendance at these events

- S2 Learner Pathways: Thursday 16 January (6:00-7:00)
- S3 Learner Pathways: Monday 3 February (6:00-7:00)
- S4/5 Learner Pathways: Monday 17 February (6:00-7:00)

Jobs of the Future Conference

We are very excited to be working with our Regional Developing the Young Workforce team and around 20 employers to deliver this event. During the conference we will have a panel discussion from employers and young people followed by a chance for pupils, parents, teachers and employers to discuss how we can all work together to ensure our young people are well informed and well prepared for their next steps after school. This is a real opportunity to understand what employers are looking for in young people and contribute to how the school can help prepare them for their next steps.

The key aims for the evening include:

- Increasing the understanding of the critical skills that will support rewarding careers
- Increasing understanding of the range of occupations and growth areas to support career development and economic growth
- Provide a chance to ask questions about myths and misconceptions about post school options
- Encourage more people to make well informed career choices based on the routes open to them and the growth areas in jobs of the future
- A chance for pupils, parents, employers and teachers to meet and discuss issues around education, training and employability

This event will take place on 30 January (6:30-8:30) and will coincide with Skills Development Scotland (SDS) and the Developing Young Workforce team delivery of *Scotland's Biggest Parent Event*. Places at this exciting event will be limited as we want to ensure there is plenty of engagement between all the participants. Save the date in your diary - more details and sign up instructions will be issued after Christmas.

S2 Reports

The gremlins got into our computer systems last week and we were unable to start work on our S2 reports. Everything is up and running again but we are behind in our schedule. The reports will now be issued on 16 January, a week later than we had originally planned.

Parents' views sought on the Park Avenue gate closure

As parents will know, the pilot closure of the Park Avenue gate is underway. The principal reason for this was due to antisocial behaviour in Park Avenue; mostly from a small minority of pupils but also by a few parents parking inconsiderately.

The Parent Council has two representatives on the small working group overseeing the pilot. It would be helpful to get the views of anyone who wishes to share them so that we can represent as many opinions as possible. Please email us on:

portyhighparents@gmail.com

Porty Does Strictly 2019

Lights, camera, action were the words used to start a fantastic evening rounding up a memorable P.H.S. Inter-disciplinary learning opportunity.

Eight pupil couples and six staff couples danced the night away in front of a packed audience showcasing their skills and techniques by mastering such dances as the Charleston, Cha Cha, Samba and Jive.

Our jazz band and media group added value to the night with appropriate songs being played and films being viewed. An S3 English class researched and produced high quality programmes to compliment the event and many of our senior pupils worked back stage in a technical, production or filming role.

All competitors danced to a very high standard which was well received by our enthusiastic audience. This year our winners were Kate Broadway and Alex McLean who produced a Jazz number, previously performed by Faye Tozer on BBC Strictly. It was a knockout routine.

Well done to everyone involved and thank you for making this a great night.



Modern Languages: S6 Languages Ambassadors

We have recently visited our cluster primaries with the S6 Languages Ambassadors to deliver mini-lessons in French for P2 and P4 and in Spanish P7. We did a variety of games and storytelling activities with the primary pupils and all the visits were a big success. Feedback from all of the primary schools has been really positive and our S6s were superb – they were enthusiastic, engaging and inspiring. A few potential budding primary teachers in the group too! In the meantime at Portobello, our S6s are also continuing to support learners in S1-3 French and Spanish classes.

Mr A. McCulloch - CL Modern Languages



FREE PARENT/CARER family conflict resolution training opportunity (half day)

When: Friday 7 February 2020

Where: Norton Park Training Centre, 57 Albion Road, Edinburgh, EH7 5QY

Families can be complicated, loving, difficult, complex and conflicting even on a good day. Find out a bit more about resolving conflicts and improving relationships.

The SCCR delivers this training to provide some understanding around conflict as a parent/carer: exploring what conflict is, reviewing relationships, identifying potential triggers and 'silly wee things', reflecting on growing up, and looking at how we can respond to situations to find a resolution.

The course is short, simple, informative and interactive allowing parents/carers to informally share experiences and discuss related issues with others.

Who is it for?

The course is aimed parents/carers of young people and has been designed in such a way that it allows participants to share their knowledge and experience with other parents/carers. The delivery is informal and is a mix of presentation, discussion, activity and evaluation.

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For further information on this and all other SCCR training and events being held across Scotland, please contact our Event Organiser, Yvonne Moffat, on yvonnemoffat@cyrenians.scot or call 0131 475 2493.

BOOK YOUR FREE SPACE ON OUR WEBSITE OR DROP US AN EMAIL AT SCCR@CYRENIANS.SCOT

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Scottish Schools U18 football team

A huge well done to Aidan McFarlane who made it to the final trial for the Scottish Schools U18 football team. Unfortunately, he was not selected for the final squad this time round, to make it this far is a huge achievement. He continues to play with the Lothian Schools Select team along with fellow S5 pupils Sulaiman Ashraf and Jamie Smith as well as Tom Davies and Jamie Neill in S6.

Under-16s Football

The Porty U16-team were offered the opportunity to qualify in the Scottish Shield.

Team: Tom Angus, Elijah Anukam, Ben Bookbinder, Daniel Fennell, Ellis Gray, Haritz Gaidarski

Jonny Harvey, Robert Hunter, Jamie McGregor, Robert Miele, Jack Ryan, Charlie Stevenson

Finlay Stewart, Rian Tweed, Evan Veitch and Brodie Watt

S5 Coaches: Jamie Smith and Kieran Fox.

Porty 6-1 Bishopbriggs

A good win away-from-home sees the team through to the quarter-final of the Scottish Shield!

Well Done Team!

Basketball

Congratulations to our Girls Basketball teams - progress in the Scottish Schools Cup Competition is as follows:

Open Girls – Quarter Final – Wallace HS 37 Portobello HS 46 – Fantastic result for our Open Girls which takes them into the Semi – Final Stages of the Cup Competition in March 2020

U15 Girls – Quarter Final – Friday 17 January 2020, 2.30pm Tip Off – Falkirk HS v Portobello HS

S1 Girls - Quarter Final – Wednesday 22 January 2020, 1.00pm Tip Off – St Matthew's (Saltcoats) v Portobello HS

S3 School of Basketball – Congratulations to the following S3 School of Basketball pupils who completed their **Level 1 Table Officiating Course** and the **Make It Happen Course**, Well done!

Tagwa Babiker Rachel Fleming Lily Mayers Rowan MacArthur Lily Middleton Katherine Quin-Morris Alice Rennie Heather Taylor

Mohammad Atif Euan Cann Nathan Koffi Gregor McKenzie Alex Vipond Shayne Wilson