
Weekly Update 11th March 2022



Parent Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parent Council will be on Tuesday 22 March on Teams from 7 – 8.15pm. A link will be sent home nearer the time.

Dyslexia Support Parent Information Evening

Parents and carers of young people at Portobello High School who have a Dyslexia identification are invited to a parent information evening on Tuesday 5th April, online, from 18:30 to 19:30.

There will be presentations on the evening by our Dyslexia Support Teacher Laura McConnell, and Jude Durnan from the City of Edinburgh Council Additional Support for Learning (ASL) Service.

The information evening will focus on how we support pupils who have a Dyslexia identification at Portobello High School. We will cover many common topics that parents ask us about including, but not limited to:

- how we communicate a Dyslexia identification to school staff
- support in the classroom
- support in school
- using technology
- exams and assessments

A Teams link to access the event will be sent out nearer the time and the evening will be recorded for those who cannot attend the live event to access later.

It is likely that the event will cover most of the common questions you have, but questions can be submitted in advance of the event via the form linked to the QR Code below. Please submit questions by the 31st March. As it is a public event, please note that we cannot answer questions about specific pupils for reasons of confidentiality.



Scan this QR Code using your mobile device's camera to ask a question ahead of the event.

Modern Languages

MODERN LANGUAGES N5 AND HIGHER TALKING EXAMS – MARCH 2022

Pupils studying National 5 or Higher French or Spanish should be in the process of learning their content for their upcoming Talking exams. These will take place as follows:

French - week beginning Monday 14th March

Spanish – week beginning Monday 21st March

Pupils should be working at home in advance of these dates to memorise their content for these exams. The Talking element is worth 25% of the final award for both N5 and Higher and therefore a strong performance in it is crucial in order to succeed at these levels. Supported study takes place on Wednesday and Thursdays in the Modern Languages department and we would encourage pupils to attend this to get additional help with their talking exam and other aspects of the N5/H/AH courses.

If parents/carers have any questions regarding these Talking exams, please contact Mr McCulloch at andrew.mcculloch@portobello.edin.sch.uk.

Star Linguists

The Modern Languages Department are continuing to recognise and celebrate outstanding effort and achievement in languages among S1-S3 pupils through our Star Linguist awards. Here are our 'Star Linguist' winners for this month, all of whom have impressed their class teacher through working extremely hard in French or Spanish. Well done to you all!

Star Linguists
February 2022

Thomas Payne 1E (French)
"Thomas, I was so impressed by your performance for the Speaking on the topic of hobbies that you did recently in French. Your pronunciation sounded very authentic and you added a lot of detail to your answers. You consistently work hard in class and never fail to participate during lessons. Keep up the hard work! Excellent travail!"
- Ms Jouve

Rebecca Long 2AB2 (French)
"Rebecca has been working very hard all year in French and completed a recent Talking assessment on Food and Drink which was word perfect! I was so impressed with your accent Rebecca and you learned your content really well - c'était fantastique! Keep up the great work."
- Miss Lang

Hana Mhamad 1G (French)
"Hana's work this month - and all year, really - has been of the highest standard. She always comes to class with positive attitude and a keenness to learn. Hana participates enthusiastically to lessons and asks intelligent questions about the language. She has also just completed a fantastic Talking assessment on hobbies and free time to demonstrate her learning from this topic. Hana, you are my star linguist this month!"
- Mr McCulloch

Halima Bashir 2AB3 (French)
"Halima is such a star! This week she really impressed me by volunteering to go first for her Speaking Presentation. Her French accent is lovely, and she works really hard in every class. Bon travail Halima!"
- Ms Taylor

Sam Jordan 1i (French)
"Well done! You have been working extremely hard in French! You are focussed, enthusiastic and you are progressing very well. You complete activities to the best of your ability and always give 100%. Keep it up!"
- Miss Brown

Marcell Nagy 3CD5 (Spanish)
"Marcell, I have been so impressed with your work ethic and positive attitude in Spanish this year. You are always focused on the task at hand and you have made such fantastic progress in the language this year. Well done - what a star!"
- Miss Davies

Abigail Keast 2CD2 (French)
"Bravo, Abigail, you are my Star Linguist this month! Your work has been exemplary since Christmas, you are always participating and your pronunciation is top-notch. You must keep your great attitude and showcase your talent for French ☺ Toutes mes félicitations !"
- Mr Lecomte

Sira Johnston 1B (French)
"Sira, I was so impressed with your talking and writing assessments on the topic of free time. Both were extremely accurate. You worked very hard to learn the correct spelling and pronunciation, and pushed yourself to provide lots of extra detail, a huge well done!"
- Miss Howie

Well done to all our superstars!

Easter Revision Classes

In order to support young people preparing for SQA assessments, a number of subjects will be offering Easter Revision this session using funding from the Scottish Government. Details of what will be on offer are being collated and will be shared in the week beginning 21 March.

Supported Study Timetable

Day	Subject	Time	Level	Room
Monday	Biology	3:50pm–4:50pm	NAT5	F15
	Maths	After school	All Levels	Maths Department
	Modern Studies	4pm–5pm	All Levels	G16
	Drama	4pm–5pm	Nat 5 Higher	Small Hall Drama Studio
Tuesday	Admin & IT and Business Management	After school	Nat 5	Computing & Business Dept
	Computing Science	After school	Nat 5 and Higher	
	Maths	After school	All Levels	Maths Department
	RMPS	Lunchtime	All Levels	G15
Wednesday	Admin & IT and Business Management	After school	Higher	Computing & Business Dept
	Geography	12:45pm-1:15pm	S4-S6	G12
	FTT	12:45pm-1:15pm	All Levels	G08
	History	12:45pm-1:10pm	All Levels	F13
	Maths	After school	All Levels	Maths Department
	Practical Music	After school	All Levels	Music Department
	Psychology	12:45pm-1:15pm	Higher	G19
	Spanish	After school	All Levels	G40
	RMPS	12:45pm-1:15pm	All levels	G15

	Music – Understanding & Practical Music	After school	All Levels	Music department
Thursday	Chemistry	Lunchtime	All Levels	F23
	French	After school	All Levels	G47
	Health & Food Technology	12:45pm-1:15pm	All Levels	G02
	Maths	After school	All Levels	Maths Department
	Physics	3:50-4:50pm	All Levels	F29
	Geography	After school	All Levels	G12
	Modern Studies	After school	All Levels	G18

FTT N5/H Supported Study Wednesday lunchtime 12.45 G08 – Mrs. Bradley

- Dates and topics
- 23rd February – properties of textiles
- 2nd March – evaluate and analyse questions on properties
- 9th March – pattern markings/ care labels and explain questions
- 16th March – principles of design and factors to consider in manufacture
- 23rd March – Higher question 1 design practice
- 30th March – mass manufacturing and bespoke
- 6th April – Construction technique



HFT N5 and H Supported Study Thursday Lunchtimes 12.45 G02 – Mrs. Sladen

- Dates and topics
- 24th Feb - Command words - Evaluations
- 3rd March – Command words - Explain
- 10th March -Nutrition
- 17th March – DRV'S
- 25th March –Food Product Development stages
- 31st March – CFI – Organics, Fairtrade
- 7th April – Functions of ingredients



New Bike Sheds

We are pleased to have had new, more secure bike storage installed. Young people who had left locks attached to the previous bike racks should remove these as soon as possible as they are to be re-used elsewhere.



Kitchen

The Grab and Go machine is now back in use in the dining hall. Young people who wish to take advantage of a Grab and Go lunch to avoid the queue can order from it Monday to Thursday from 8am until 10.50am. Pupils will be able to collect their meal from a member of the kitchen team standing at the bench beside the Pupil Entrance at lunch time.