

Parent Update – Friday 21 June 2019

June Dates for the Diary

Friday 28 June Community Ceilidh

School Improvement Planning and Key Priorities

We may be near the end of one school session, but some of our thoughts are already on our priorities for the session ahead. In 2019 – 2020, we will be continuing with the 3 Key Priorities which we identified last autumn:

- Learning and Teaching to raise attainment;
- Equity to close the gaps;
- Curriculum to meet the needs of all learners.

In the attached Key Priorities document, you can see the strategic actions we intend to take to bring about improvement in each of these priorities. The School Improvement Plan for 2019 – 2020 will give a bit more detail and that will be put onto the school website next week. Also attached is a summary of the school's progress in achieving School Improvement Plan targets since 2016. It's a real pleasure to see such progress, and I would like to thank everyone in the school community for their hard work, commitment and support throughout the year. It's been a great year at North Berwick High School, and we have lots to be proud of!

Lauren Rodger

Head Teacher

East Lothian Works Blog

East Lothian Works has a brand new blog detailing all of the amazing successes and achievements that their clients and students experience. As East Lothian Council's employability hub, East Lothian Works creates collaborations with schools in order to aid students thinking about their future career paths, and to help in their journey towards achieving their goals. When focusing on secondary schools, the hub looks at providing opportunities for young people that will give them advantages when entering the world of work. For example, East Lothian Works is responsible for the organisation of the Foundation Apprenticeships that are on offer to senior phase students, and also creates the Pre-Vocational opportunities that young people can engage with. We have experienced many successes through these programmes, having had many students go on to find positive destinations as a result of their experiences with East Lothian Works. The new blog details these triumphs, and informs students, school staff, and parents of the many opportunities that are out there. We encourage you to check out the site, and bookmark it, as there will be more posts in the future that may be of interest to you and your children, with a particular emphasis being given to Foundation Apprenticeship courses over the summer holidays.

<https://www.edubuzz.org/eastlothianworks/>

Orlando Science Trip

Last week, 33 of our senior pupils returned from a very engaging science trip in Orlando. Pupils followed a packed itinerary, which included a tour of the NASA Kennedy Space Centre; lunch with NASA astronaut John Blaha, giving our pupils the opportunity to hear first-hand what it's really like to launch into and then live and work in space; learning about the physics of flight and experiencing an indoor sky dive; a Florida Everglades educational airboat ride and STEM lessons at Orlando Studios, taking pupils inside the loops and drops of the largest roller coasters and learning about the physics principles behind them. Overall the trip gave pupils a fantastic opportunity to learn about study and career opportunities in the field of science, technology and engineering and to apply their learning to real life scenarios, developing a deeper understanding of the scientific principles covered in their academic courses.



ChildNet Film Competition 2019

Two teams of S2 girls submitted fantastic entries into this competition sharing their vision for a better internet. I would like to say a massive thank you to the girls for all their efforts outside of class time. It is great to work with individuals who demonstrate a strong work ethic, ability to work with peers and show conscientiousness. Neither of our teams won the overall competition but ChildNet did get in touch to thank the girls and compliment them on the quality of their work. Congratulations girls and really well done on your efforts!

Miss Fox

Business Education

Book Festival Trip

An opportunity has arisen to attend an exciting event at this year's Edinburgh Book Festival for Schools to see the UK's leading spoken-word and improvisational music act, Tongue Fu (www.tonguefu.co.uk). Spaces are limited, and the event is suitable for S5/6 only. Pupils who would like to attend should see Miss Wilson in the library as soon as possible to grab a space!

Date for the Diary – NBHS Careers Evening, Wednesday 25 September

Our annual Careers Evening returns on 25 September, from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Last year we hosted 32 different organisations with more than 300 people attending over the course of the evening. We hope to make this event bigger again and hope you can join us for a very worthwhile event.

Careers Update

My colleague Jennifer Jones, Careers Adviser will be joining us at North Berwick High this academic session and I would like to welcome her to the team.

S6 have just had their careers talk which can be viewed [here](#). In particular, I would like to draw your attention to the booklet which contains links to resources for every post school option. You may want to download this.

S3 have just had their careers talk and you can view this [here](#). We will have further inputs over S3 and I will keep you updated with this.

I have also added a couple of podcasts from former students that may you will find interesting:

- A career in funeral care [here](#)
- Taking the college route to a degree [here](#)

Please feel free to contact us using the addresses below:

mick.burns@sds.co.uk

jennifer.jones@sds.co.uk

English Faculty Information

Please have look at a letter to all parents from the English faculty and a suggested reading list for S4-S6s, both of which are attached to this email.

PTA Prize Draw

The winners of the May PTA prize draw are Mandy Thomson (first prize: £50) and Dora Roden (second prize: £25). Congratulations to both! Thank you to everyone who already supports this valuable fundraiser. If you would like to sign up please contact ptanbhs@gmail.com. For an annual sub of just £18 your name gets entered into 12 monthly draws, with £75 of prize money each month!

Smartcard Bus Pass Activation

Any pupils who use the school buses and did not have their smartcards activated at school yesterday will need to take their card to John Muir House in Haddington to be activated for use on the buses from session 2019-20 from when they return to school in August.

Fringe By the Sea Street Art Project and Youth Project Takeover

Street Art Project:

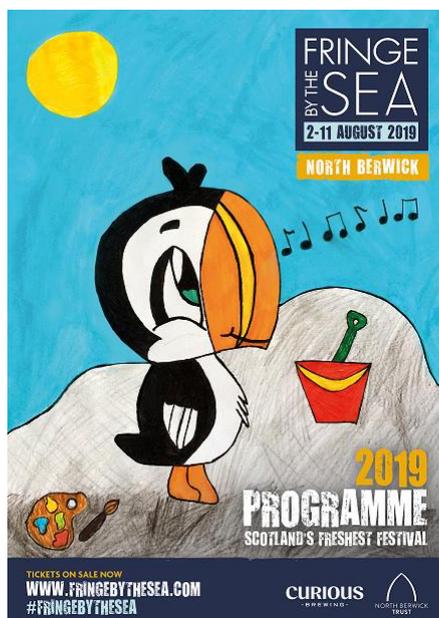
Fringe By The Sea festival is looking for 12-18 year olds to take part in a special project to create new street art for North Berwick. Come along to learn new skills, work with an artist and help create an installation. You don't need to be skilled in art - everyone will be able to participate and make their mark on the project.

Sessions are on Saturday 2nd (12-1pm), Wednesday 7th (1-3pm) and Saturday 10th August (12-1pm), and are FREE but limited.

Secure your place at <https://ctzn.tk/street>. You can come along to all three sessions or as many as you want.

North Berwick Youth Project Takeover @ FBTS:

The Youth Project are taking over a Spiegeltent at this year's festival on Wednesday 7th August from 1-5pm. Taster sessions on boxing, yoga, street art, film and more for 12-18 year olds. It's FREE but secure your space and let us know you're coming at: <https://ctzn.tk/youth>



Should you have any queries about anything covered in this email, or any general enquiries, please contact the School at: communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk