

Parent Update – Friday 10 October 2019

Staffing

There have been some recent staffing changes at the school:

- English teacher – Ms Fruish has been appointed to a temporary principal teacher post in another school in the authority and will leave us at the end of the month. We wish her well in her leadership role. The post is currently being advertised.
- Geography teacher – We are delighted to welcome Mrs Goudie, who started with us this week.
- Support for Learning teacher – Mrs Johnston has moved on to a temporary principal teacher post in another school in the authority and we sent her off with our good wishes. The post is currently being advertised.
- Pupil support auxiliary – Mr Macaulay has left NBHS and we wish him success in his new venture. We are pleased to welcome Mrs Braby to the Support for Learning department.

Talk: Life After School with ASD – Tuesday 22 October

Rachel Woods, an ex-pupil of North Berwick High School, is coming to speak about her experiences of life beyond school as a young person with ASD. Rachel has enjoyed a great deal of success since leaving school and her story is moving, powerful and incredibly reassuring. We would like to invite parents / carers of young people with ASD to come along and hear Rachel's story on Tuesday 22 October, from 6.30 to 7.30 pm at North Berwick High School. Rachel will show her recent TED Talk and speak about her experiences of life beyond school. There will also be an opportunity to ask Rachel any questions at the end of the session. Please email confirmation of your attendance to Lara Neri at lneri@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk

School Dress code

As always before a holiday, we request that if you are purchasing any items of school clothing during the break, you ensure that they follow our dress code. We have made a slight adaptation to the dress code in response to requests from pupils: as well as plain black trousers and plain black skirt, we have added plain black pinafore. You can find the school dress code on the school website, under the School Information tab.

SQA Post-results Service

We have now received the outcome of the marking review requests which the school submitted to the Scottish Qualifications Authority. We submitted 23 marking reviews, for candidates whose grades were "markedly at odds with the totality of assessment evidence" (SQA guidelines). Two of the 23 marking reviews were successful and the candidates had their mark upgraded; the rest remained unchanged.

Rolling Monday

Please note that Thursday 24 October is a rolling Monday so pupils should bring equipment for their Monday timetable on that day.

Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions



Over the last few weeks 42 of our S3 and S4 pupils have been completing practice expeditions for their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh awards. Despite both expeditions experiencing inclement weather for large periods, all our pupils remained positive and represented our school fantastically well. Huge thanks needs to go to the teachers supervising the expeditions: Mrs Bloomfield, Mrs Waddell, Mr Parker, Miss Turnbull and Mr Jones.

Digital Explorers Week

This week 10 of our S2 boys were involved in a Digital Explorers event organised and run by Tata Consultancy Services. The boys attended sessions on:

- **Coding Ozobots** (this was their favourite) - where they were tasked with creating a route map for their Ozobot. Along the route they had to incorporate coding to instruct the Ozobot to perform a different task such as turn right, slow down and hyper speed.
- **Coding Communications** – they had to crack codes to reveal hidden messages, then using torches communicate these messages to one another.
- **Meet a Mentor** - question and answer session with a number of individuals working in tech. Key information from this session was essential skills identified for careers in tech: communication, problem solving, ability to build relationships, learning from mistakes, appreciating that learning never really stops.
- **STEM Den** - they were tasked with identifying a current product which they felt could be improved up on. Our boys upgraded the toaster. They made the side panels see-through so you could easily see when your toast was cooked to perfection, added a frying pan so you could cook your eggs simultaneously and increased the capacity so toast could be cooked on mass.

Overall it was a fantastic day, the boys were fully engaged, enthusiastic and represented North Berwick extremely well. Through participating in these activities the boys have also been awarded the Industrial Cadets Challenger Award (www.industrialcadets.org.uk), certificates will be issued to the boys after the holidays.

Mrs Fox

Business Education Teacher

Running for Reon

A group of our S4 boys will be running a 5k trail race at Foxlake, Dunbar this November to raise money for a CCLASP (Children with Cancer and Leukaemia Advice and Support for Parents) a charity which helps Scottish children who suffer from cancer and leukaemia and offers support to their families. The boys are doing this in memory of their good friend Reon, who sadly passed away last year after a battle with leukaemia. The boys say "Reon was one of the most kind and active people we knew and he was always up for a challenge, so we have decided to fundraise in his memory. Please donate as much as you can because it will make a huge difference to the children and their families who are fighting cancer today."

If you would like to make a donation, the boys have set up this fundraising page:
<https://justgiving.com/fundraising/nb5krun>

Lothian Disability Sport – Lothian Schools Swim Event

Four of our young people participated in the Lothian Disability Schools Swim event at the Mercat Gait swimming pool in Prestonpans yesterday. The event had a mixed level of swimmers from all over the Lothians with some swimmers competing regularly in swimming galas at club level. Our girls were understandably nervous but also excited to be competing in their first ever gala and performed extremely well, showing amazing resilience and diligence. Well done girls, we are very proud of you!

Race 4 25m Breaststroke

3rd Chantelle Brown 2C2

Race 5 25m Breaststroke

1st Rebecca O'Connor 1C1

2nd Charley Alcock 3C

3rd Sky Brown 2C2

Race 18 25m Freestyle

1st Sky Brown 2C2

Race 20 25m Freestyle

2nd Charley Alcock 3C

3rd Rebecca O'Connor 1C1

4th Chantelle Brown 2C2

Library Books

If any school library books are found lurking at the back of shelves or at the bottom of school bags during the October holidays, they can be handed in to any local East Lothian public library. There are no overdue fees for pupils 18 and under who are in full time education, and all returns are greatly appreciated.

Board Games and Lego Club

The Board Games and Lego Club will now be held on a Monday lunchtime, starting week beginning Monday 28 October.

Film Club

Film Club will continue to be held on Wednesday lunchtimes, with a second workshop led by lecturers and students from QMU to take place in November this term. All very welcome to come along and join in!

Dates for your Diary

Parents' Evening Dates 2019-20

- S1 Tuesday 19 November 2019
- S2 Wednesday 15 January 2020
- S3 Thursday 6 February 2020
- S4 Wednesday 19 February 2020
- S5/6 Thursday 27 February 2020

Parent Council Meetings

all at 7.00 pm in Support for Learning classroom

Wednesday 20 November 2019

Tuesday 21 January 2020

Tuesday 3 March 2020

Tuesday 28 April 2020

Tuesday 2 June 2020

Concerts

Monday 9 December 2019

Tuesday 10 December 2019

Tuesday 31 April 2020

Christmas Dances

S1 Monday 16 December

S2 Wednesday 11 December

S3/S4 Tuesday 17 December

S5/S6 Thursday 12 December

Happy Holidays!

Wishing all our pupils and their families a restful, happy October break. Pupils should return to school on **Wednesday 23 October**.

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