



NBHS WEEKLY UPDATE

Friday 26 February 2021

World Book Day 2021

This year's World Book Day is on Thursday 4th March! An annual celebration of everything related to books and reading, there is a wealth of fantastic free events, activities, audiobooks and book samples for young people of all ages online at: <https://www.worldbookdaysocial.com/> or <https://www.worldbookday.com/>

One event in particular to highlight is on Friday 5th March at 10.30am on the World Book Day website and YouTube channel - a live event with two authors and one illustrator, considering the relationship of reading to the real world. Find more information here: <https://www.worldbookdaysocial.com/share-a-story-live-digital-events/> This event is completely free!

S1-3 pupils should keep an eye on their library Google Classrooms where Miss Wilson will be sharing some of the best events, activities and videos for them to access throughout the week for free and for fun! Happy reading!

Silver Rights Respecting Schools Award

As many of you know already, North Berwick High School is working towards achieving the Silver Rights Respecting Schools award. On 16th February, the SQA published a document 'Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment' which you can find on the SQA website [children's rights and wellbeing impact assessment](#). In this, the SQA has highlighted 5 Articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child that underpin the policy/measures that it has taken in relation to the alternative certification model for 2021. The policy/measures are "to have the potential to advance the realisation of children's rights in Scotland" (p8) and the focus is on 5 key articles:

- Article 2 - non- discrimination
- Article 3 - the best interests of the child
- Article 12 - respect for the views of the child
- Article 17- the right to information
- Article 28 – the right to education.

I would encourage you to take some time to read this document on your own and possibly discuss it with your child, especially if they were meant to be sitting exams this year. If you have younger children, do take the time to discuss children's rights with them. When we talk about rights, it is important to think about them not just in day to day life (school/at home) but also in the wider community and globally. If your child during lockdown has done anything that relates to rights (perhaps a fundraiser) then please ask them to share this with me.

At North Berwick there is a lunchtime rights group within school and we would be delighted to welcome new members as we work towards achieving silver. Today (Friday 26 February), some of the rights ambassadors are going to be working via a google meet with the charity scotdec (www.scotdec.org.uk) to help provide feedback on a digital resource aimed at S1s and above, and specifically written for young people, before it is published. It is going to focus on an issue that they care about using social media and other online tools.

If your child is interested in rights issues or keen to find out more, please ask them to get in touch with me via email. We would welcome any input from parents or the wider community too, especially once we are back in school.

There are a number of connections that we can make between **world book day** and children's rights and the main ones are right to access reliable information (Article 17), the aims of education (Article 29) and rest, play, culture and arts (Article 31). For more information and resources on world book day and rights please visit:

<https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/resources/teaching-resources/guidance-assemblies-lessons/article-of-the-week/>

Mrs Munro, Support for Learning teacher vmunro@edubuzz.org

S5/S6 Parents' Evening

Based on the feedback so far we can confidently say the S5/S6 parents' evening on Wednesday this week was a success. We will pass on to teachers all the very kind words of appreciation we have received. Many parents have expressed the desire for this approach to parents' evenings to continue beyond the end of the pandemic, and this is something we will certainly consider. A few parents raised individual concerns via the feedback form. We are not able to respond to these as the form was anonymous, so please do get in touch with school if you have any issues you wish to discuss.

FINANCE: Careers Insight Session

Interested in a career in finance? - Google Meet on Wednesday 3rd March at 3:30pm (open to anyone interested).

Mick Burns, Miss Fox and I are running a special session for pupils interested in applying for Finance. We have invited a former NBHS pupil, Rosanna Loy, who initially studied Genetics before moving into a career in Finance. The session will be focused on passing on relevant information and helpful tips to form a strong application. To make this meeting more useful for yourselves, Rosanna will be taking questions throughout the session. If you could prepare a question in advance, it would help our discussion be more informative for yourselves.

I would ask that during the session unless you are one of our key speakers, please could you mute your video and microphones and use the chat on the side of the screen to submit questions. Myself or Mick will read these out at appropriate points in the discussion.

Please email myself, Mr Burgess cburgess@eudbuzz.org to request a link to the online meeting.

S4-6 Virtual Work Experience Opportunity (Law)

Browne Jacobson are a top 50 law firm with offices in England and revenues of £50million. These two days in the Easter Holidays are going to provide students with a really great insight into how a law firm works and makes money, the different departments they have, and an opportunity to talk with lots of different solicitors.

Law Virtual Work Experience:

- Tuesday 6th & Wednesday 7th April, 9am - 4pm each day
- Partner welcome talk
- An insight to law, their different departments and areas of work (including non law routes)
- Breakout rooms with solicitors in talking about different areas of law

- Workshops & interactive sessions
 - Open to all Y11, S4, Y12 / S5, Y13 / S6 & Y14 students
- Application Link:** <https://www.research.net/r/Law-WEX>

Future Asset – DYW Sessions

We are very excited to invite you to join us at our four live workshops in March with DYW Live, in partnership with Education Scotland and E-Sgoil.

After introducing investment and why it matters to us all, professionals from investment firms in Scotland will give talks on three sectors: Oil, Healthcare and Fast Fashion. We'll look at the pros and cons, and some issues in each of these sectors, and then give students the opportunity to raise points, ask questions, consider the facts and ultimately vote on whether they would advise investing in that area or not.

This is a great opportunity for students to engage directly with professionals and discuss issues around the economy, sustainability, ethics and business. They will see how these issues interact and how making decisions is never as straightforward as they may think!

- 4 March, 1pm: Introduction to Investment: what is investment? Who invests and why? What do they invest in? How does that affect you?
- 11 March, 1pm: Big Oil: Invest or Divest? The changing world of energy production. Would you invest in Royal Dutch Shell and BP to fund them through their transition to generating energy in a low carbon world or would you disinvest given their continued production from 'dirty' sources? Investment, business strategy, economics, environmental impact and sustainability. With Lynne Lamont, Brewin Dolphin
- 18 March, 1pm: Healthy Finances? Scientific research and new technology are rapidly changing how we deliver healthcare and treat disease. Pfizer, Astra Zeneca and Moderna are companies in the news with COVID 19 vaccines, but do they or other Healthcare firms make a good investment? With Luran Halpin, Edinburgh Partners
- 25 March, 1pm: Outmoded: Is investing in Fast Fashion sustainable? Boohoo and ASOS are in the news, making a profit from inexpensive clothes. But is fast fashion really sustainable both environmentally and as a business model? With Carolyn Bell, Aegon Asset Management

Interested? Email Mrs Fox – hfox@edubuzz.org

You need to be able to access your Glow account to take part. Check you can access it (you received an email from Mr Frew in June with your log in details), if not let Mrs Fox know.

Scottish Apprenticeship Week

Scottish Apprenticeship Week for all S3, S4, S5 & S6 students. We have decided to host a virtual event with 7 of our biggest clients who have a huge hiring presence in the Scottish Region on Monday 1st March, 4pm - 6pm.

We have teamed up with EY, GSK, QA, HSBC, PwC, Capgemini & RAF, all of which will be delivering a 15-minute workshop / session on who they are, what they do and career opportunities for your students. Each company will be joined by one of their very own apprentices who will share their career journey to date along with someone from the recruitment team to share information on the different opportunities / route paths post studies.

There will be a big focus on Work Experience and Graduate Apprenticeship opportunities many of which will be live and open for your students to apply to straight away!

Webinar Details:

- Monday 1st March, 4pm - 6pm
- 8 different Apprentice highlight journeys and workshop sessions
- Open to all pupils in year groups S3, S4, S5 & S6
- Opportunity to ask questions and find out about other young people's career journeys
- Big focus on Graduate Apprenticeships and Summer Work Experience
- Learn about different types of apprenticeships, some myth busting and a few prizes along the way!
- Free event for all students, teachers and parents

Application Link:

<https://www.research.net/r/Scottish-NAW>



Careers

Mick Burns Careers Adviser

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Scottish Apprenticeship Week

Next week is SAW and you can find some local information [here](#)

Vacancy updates include construction, engineering, oil and gas engineering along with finance and related work at: edubuzz.org/careers

Edinburgh College courses are now taking applications. I have delivered a preparation for college talk on 20 January and you can view this [here](#)

I have posted several vacancies recently at edubuzz.org/careers so please visit if you are considering employment, apprenticeships or training.

Another useful site if you are looking for local vacancies is edubuzz.org/midandeastvacancies as well as www.apprenticeship.scot

We have put together a short presentation in The Apprenticeship Family [here](#) that you may find useful, particularly at subject choice time.

Law virtual work experience opportunity:

<https://www.edubuzz.org/careers/2021/02/25/s4-6-law-work-experience/>

NBHS PTA Monthly Prize Draw

The winners in the January prize draw are Ben Mack (first prize: £50) and James Ingham (second prize: £25). Congratulations to both! Thank you to everyone who already supports this valuable fundraiser. If you'd 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!

Physical Education

We are very lucky to have two student teachers from Edinburgh University working with us at the moment. They are enthusiastic and ready to help deliver our online teaching provision. They have introduced themselves to most classes and have joined senior classes in google meets as well as preparing online tasks. They will share some challenges with S1 - S3 pupils next week, so keep checking your google classrooms to access the resources.

Our Sports Council team, run by S6 volunteers, are also preparing a challenge, with prizes to be won. More information will be issued next week but we can't wait to take advantage of the good weather again. It's been a long winter, let's get out and about!

Instrumental Music Service – East Lothian Piano Festival

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope your child is continuing to enjoy their lessons with the Instrumental Music Service. I'm aware how challenging the last few months have been for us all and I wish to thank you for your continued support of your child's music making. It has been great to see so many of our young people involved in our Digital Events so far this year and for us to be able to celebrate their talents in this way. Nothing of course can compare to live music and we hope to resume face to face activities as soon as it is safe to do so.

Tomorrow will see 58 of our young pianists participate in the East Lothian Piano Festival 2021 and I would like to invite you all to attend our YouTube Festival from 10am. We have almost two hours of piano music for you and it has been a privilege and a pleasure to put this project together this week and enjoy listening to the exceptional performances from our young musicians. I hope you will consider joining us tomorrow. As part of the same festival, we will be having a Facebook Premiere Gala Concert with selected performances on Thursday 4th March at 7pm and I hope you will consider joining us for this event too.

Please click [here](#) for a link to tomorrow's YouTube Festival and further details will be available soon on East Lothian's Facebook Page for the Concert on the 4th March. Bravo to all our young pianists who participated and indeed to all our young musicians for keeping music alive in East Lothian during this challenging year!

Kind regards

Jonathan Gawn, Team Manager - Instrumental Music Service

Unexpected – and appreciated - Thank You Messages

We received a very welcome message in school this week from the Pearson Teaching Awards team: “We are writing to you because Ms Barker, Ms Wilson, North Berwick High Guidance Team and North Berwick High School have received a Thank You card from The Teaching Awards Trust, on behalf of a student, parent or colleague.”

What a lovely gesture from those of you who took the time to contact Pearson to pass on your thanks in this way.

New East Lothian Council web page created for weather updates

If you love following the weather forecast, this new website will keep you up to date with information on weather in East Lothian:

https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/news/article/13475/wintry_weather_-_tuesday_9_february?utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=Orlo

Doug Haig, Connected Communities Manager

COVID-19 Positive Cases

Although the majority of our young people are not in the school building, we would appreciate it if you would inform the authority if your child tests positive for COVID-19. Please email the details to covidinschools@eastlothian.gov.uk. If you have no access to email then please call East Lothian Council on 01875 613 921. If your child is attending the school hub or practical lessons during lockdown, please do not send them if they have any COVID-19 symptoms; instead, please ensure that they self-isolate and book a test.

COVID-19 – Financial Issues

The following link provides information to parents and carers on the advice and support available for anyone experiencing financial hardship due to COVID.

https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/30092/financial_support_during_covid-19

NBHS Communications

We have had some instances recently of parents contacting teachers directly via their child’s edubuzz email address. Please note that this is not allowed under General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). If you wish to contact any member of staff, please do so by the normal process - via the communications inbox, as outlined below. Your email will then be directed to the relevant person who can address your query or concern.

Just a reminder that if you wish to contact school you should email us at the address below, or contact your child’s guidance teacher directly. This email inbox will be monitored every school day during the closure of the school building; it will also be checked occasionally over weekends. During the school day, there are not always staff available in the building to take phone calls so please email, or leave a phone message which will be picked up as soon as possible. Please note that should a member of school staff phone you, it will likely be from a withheld number.

communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 9 March	Parent Council meeting
Monday 15 March	More pupils may return to school building (awaiting Scottish Government update)
Thursday 1 April	School closes for Easter break
Tuesday 20 April	School reopens