

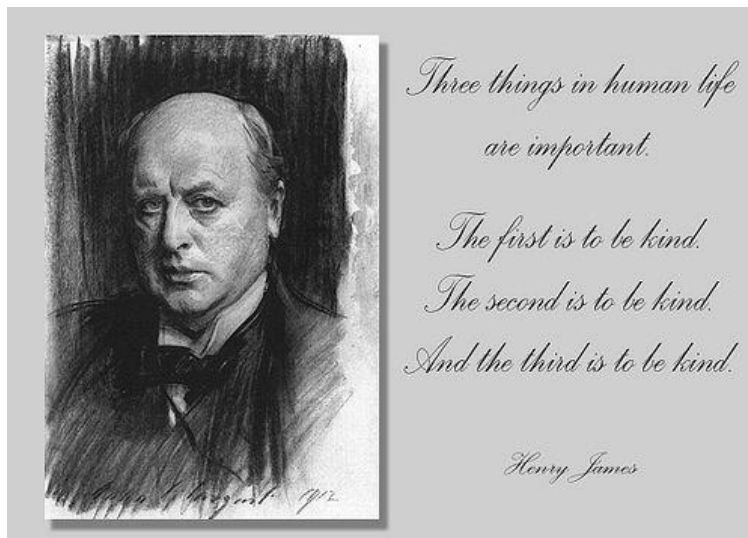


NBHS WEEKLY UPDATE

Friday 14th January 2022

Message from HT

At challenging times, our community pulls together. This week, I have had the opportunity to connect with community partners at the Bass Rock Community Group, a satellite of the Rotary Global Hub, to find out more about what they can offer NBHS by way of community projects and group work and how we can support their aims. I have had email conversations with parents that have left me in no doubt that we have shared values and goals – I very much hope it is not too long before I can welcome parents into school to meet with me face-to-face. I have had members of our community volunteer their support in so many ways – from fundraising ideas, to volunteering to help out in classes (ongoing restrictions permitting), to offering job opportunities and learning experiences to our young people. I feel proud to work in such a kind community.



Mrs Moore

Charity News

<https://www.eastlothiancourier.com/news/19845038.county-charity-gets-3-000-boost-thanks-north-berwick-high-school-students/>

Block 2 Prelim Diet

Block 2 of our Senior Phase prelim diet will therefore run as planned on 10th January-24th January. (There are 2 papers on Friday 7th January, and pupils are aware if this applies to them.)

Wishing all seniors the very best of luck!

In line with NBHS usual prelim procedures, **please could young people come to prelims in dress code**. This supports our community ethos and makes pupils easily identifiable when they are in the building.

SQA update

We received communication from SQA on 11th January which informed us that it remains the clear intention for the 2022 SQA exams to take place in April-June.

Furthermore, that SQA are “*actively monitoring levels of disruption across the country, including levels of learner and staff absence. If significant levels of disruption continue, we will soon move to what has been referred to in previous communications as Scenario 2, which means supporting learners with their final revision in the immediate run-up to the exams.*

In this scenario, revision support, for example guidance on topics, will be provided to help learners maximise their exam performance and reduce exam stress. There will not be any further changes to courses or course assessments, over and above those already in place through the existing modifications.

If we move to Scenario 2, revision support will be issued in March for most courses, to allow as much time as possible for learning and teaching. The type of revision support will differ across courses, depending on the assessment approach and the modifications made at the start of the session. We will provide more information as soon as these are finalised.”

SQA have prepared a blog post for parents: [Supporting learners as Covid disruption continues – a message for parents and carers - Qualifications 2022 \(sqa.org.uk\)](https://www.sqa.org.uk/supporting-learners-as-covid-disruption-continues-a-message-for-parents-and-carers-qualifications-2022)

NBHS will continue to keep you informed to the very best of our ability.

Parent Council Meeting – Wednesday 26th January

Please email communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk to request the meeting link. All welcome.

PTA Meeting Invitation: 7pm Wednesday 19th January

All parents and carers are invited to join the first PTA meeting of 2022!

What is the PTA ? The PTA is a charity made up of parents, carers, teachers and students, who work together to support school activities and raise vital funds for the school and its students. We welcome all parents/carers and appreciate any input or support you can offer in terms of time, expertise and fundraising ideas.

How to join the meeting?

We will be using Google Meet so if you'd like to attend, please email us in advance at ptanbhs@gmail.com and we will send you a link to join the meeting.

How can I support the North Berwick High School PTA?

Join the Online PTA Monthly Meetings

The PTA support school activities and organises fundraising activities to benefit our pupils and school. All parents and carers are welcome and are encouraged to join.

To find out more email ptanbhs@gmail.com or click here [What is the PTA](#)

Join the PTA Monthly Prize Draw

To find out all you need to know about our wonderful, recently improved prize draw, please click [here](#).

Use Easyfundraising when shopping online

By signing up to easyfundraising you can earn donations (a % of your spend) from retailers to NBHS, at no extra cost to yourself. Click [here](#) to visit the easyfundraising website and nominate NBHS PTA to receive donations.

Use AmazonSmile instead of Amazon

The AmazonSmile initiative allows you to donate to the school, at no extra cost, by buying products online – and millions of products are eligible for donations to the High School. Just go to smile.amazon.co.uk and select North Berwick High School before you start shopping.

Donate Study Guides and Past Papers

Any study guides or past papers are a great resource for our pupils and any donations of these to the school library are much appreciated.

College Courses

Pupils who attend college courses have been contacted separately. These will continue as before with most running on-line. Pupils who are still attending college in person should come to school at lunchtime on Tuesdays and Thursdays for transport to college.

Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge

It is normally the case that we celebrate the successes and achievements of the NBHS pupils in the Weekly Newsletter, but we couldn't let the opportunity pass without drawing attention to the incredible endeavour that some of our pupils' parents are currently undertaking as part of the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge.

'Five In A Row' have been taking on the Atlantic Ocean since December in the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge. This is a 3,000 mile row from La Gomera in the Canaries to Antigua in the Caribbean. 'Five in a Row' is a crew of five: Iain Baird, Duncan Hughes (Skipper and dad of Ruaridh in S1), Ross McKinney (dad of Angus in S1), Fraser Potter and Clive Rooney.

The challenge is being undertaken to help to support Reverse Rett, who are a small UK based charity focused on medical research to help those who suffer from Rett Syndrome. Ross' daughter, Eliza, has Rett Syndrome and he has been actively involved with the charity since the age of 3.

The team are currently in 2nd place in a fleet of 36 boats and they are close to the world record for a 5-man crossing of the Atlantic, which is 35 days, 19 hours and 50 minutes. The team are due to get to Antigua on 16th or 17th January.

The team's progress can be tracked via the app: 'YB Races' and some pre-race team photos can be found here: <https://atlanticcampaigns.smugmug.com/TWAC-2021/36-FIVE-IN-A-ROW/>
We wish the team good luck in the last few days of their journey!



Rugby Success



It is with great pride I can report that North Berwick Rugby Club have won this season's East Lothian Schools Conference. A formal announcement will follow from Scottish Rugby in due course. This

season we have been able to field all five teams from the school population with approximately 100 NBHS students representing the school across the 5 teams. The work carried out by North Berwick Rugby Club during lockdown that kept the players engaged and continued their training is reflected in the league outcome and we continue to enjoy a positive relationship between the School and Club as we deliver rugby in the North Berwick Community.

There is one remaining North Berwick match to be played on 22nd January in which the U16s hope to defeat Musselburgh and qualify for the national u16 schools shield.

Huge congratulations to the teams:

Angus	Cross	U13	Jacob	Jolly	U15
Dylan	Muir	U13	Jake	Hetherington	U15
Finlay	Langlands	U13	Jamie	Rowse	U15
Jack	Thomson	U13	Joseph	Gerald	U15
Jack	Westwater	U13	Kier	McMullen	U15
Joseph	Black	U13	Lewis	Scott	U15
Leo	Rodriguez	U13	Louis	Napier	U15
Lewis	Lothian	U13	Oscar	Mackenzie	U15
Liam	Gruber	U13	Rhoan	Fraser	U15
Marley	MacKenzie	U13	Ross	Napier	U15
Milo	McDonald	U13	Stanley	Watson	U15
Oliver	Napier	U13	Tobias	Bekkers Trugg	U15
Ruari	Maclean	U13	Andrew	Macaskill	U16
Angus	Lothian	U14	Angus	Gray	U16
Blair	Smith	U14	Angus	Waddell	U16
Cameron	Usher	U14	Callum	Masson	U16
Charlie	Pugh	U14	Callum	Perry	U16
Euan	McKenna	U14	Cameron	McIntyre	U16
Finlay	Robertson	U14	Finlay	Mitchell	U16
Hamish	Dooner	U14	Finn	Ryan	U16
Innes	Hinton	U14	Hamish	Green	U16
James	Vick	U14	Harry	Dunkinson	U16
Laird	Wharton	U14	Jamie	Perry	U16
Lewis	McIntyre	U14	JJ	Wallace	U16
Lewis	Selby	U14	Joe	Hunter	U16
Linus	Allan	U14	Louis	Sinclair	U16
Olly	Muncaster	U14	Luke	Felton	U16
Rory	Waterson	U14	Maxwell	Barbour	U16
Toby	Davidson	U14	Moray	Seaton	U16
Tom	Lyon	U14	Perry	Angel	U16
Tommy	Tunnock	U14	Tadhg	Finlayson-McCarthy	U16
Zidane	Rafique	U14	Tom	MacKay	U16
Adam	Little	U15	Woody	Martin	U16
Archie	O'Brien	U15	Charlie	Harper	U18
Cameron	Fyfe	U15	Euan	Corrie	U18
Charlie	Gill	U15	Euan	Robertson	U18
CJ	Loudon	U15	Harvey	Gill	U18
Daniel	Smith	U15	Innes	Donachie	U18

Ethan	Glancy	U15	Jack	Verrall	U18
Ethan	Mulligan	U15	James	Paton	U18
Felix	Bishop	U15	Jamie	Goodall	U18
Fergus	Kinnaird	U15	Lucas	Ireland	U18
Finan	McElroy	U15	Mackenzie	Notley	U18
Gregor	MacIntosh	U15	Michael	Hart	U18
Harris	Darge	U15	Oliver	Bonnington	U18
Innes	Taylor-Williams	U15	Oliver	Howson	U18
Jacob	Jolly	U15	Ruari	McElroy	U18
Jake	Hetherington	U15	Sonny	Allan	U18

East Lothian Works Information Evenings

East Lothian Works (the Council's Employability Hub) are hosting a series of virtual information evenings about their course offerings for the coming academic year. They will cover course choice options including Foundation Apprenticeships, the School College Partnership offer, and the East Lothian Works offer. This is a fantastic opportunity to find out about the variety of courses availability to students when they choose their subjects for next year. The sessions are repeated on the following dates, and will run from 6pm-7pm through this link:

<https://meet.google.com/ijq-pzhs-hhi>

- Monday 17th Jan
- Wednesday 19th Jan
- Monday 24th Jan
- Wednesday 26th Jan

Senior Phase Information Evening

These videos and presentations are now live and can be accessed on the school website at this link: <https://www.edubuzz.org/northberwickhigh/2021/12/02/senior-phase-virtual-information-evening/>
These will remain online for you to watch at a time that suits you.

Mr Jones

Absent Pupils Accessing Learning

We appreciate there is a need to ensure provision for learning is in place for young people self-isolating or awaiting PCR test results. As Google Classroom (GC) has been set up for every class, key powerpoints or topic overviews are being routinely posted in class spaces. Assignments and home

learning are also often posted for young people to access. Pupils can give parents/carers permission to access Guardian Summaries.

Please encourage your young person to check their Google Classrooms in the first instance. We're keen to encourage pupils to do this, if they are able to, including if a parent/carer receives a homework notification.

It is not currently possible to post coverage of every individual lesson online – pupils are very welcome to see their teacher upon their return should they require additional support.

Wherever possible, and if there is a concern, parents should contact communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk so that their query can be forwarded to the appropriate member of the extended leadership team.

As with everything at the moment, please know we are doing our absolute best to meet needs within the context we must currently operate.

Nationally, there are supplementary online learning offers available to all pupils as follows:

- The E-Sgoil online offer for Senior Phase learners can be accessed on GLOW and instructions for this are on our own school website: <https://www.edubuzz.org/northberwickhigh/wp-content/blogs.dir/894/files/2020/10/GLOW-e-Sgoil-User-Guide-2020.pdf>
- For BGE learners, there are resources on West-OS, also accessed through GLOW – the app will appear on the pupils' launch pad
- The National E-Learning Offer (NELO) can be accessed here: <https://education.gov.scot/nelo/>. This includes Learning Spaces for courses which can be accessed here: <https://www.thinglink.com/card/1421866155961745410>
- SCHOLAR resources for seniors can be found here: <https://scholar.hw.ac.uk/>

Please encourage young people who are well enough to do so, when isolating or awaiting PCR test results, to check these additional sources of support for their learning. They have been well-received by pupils and cover a large number of topics, themes and subjects.

Online learning resource

An overview the various online learning resources that support pupils' home learning can be found on the school website: **'Learning at NBHS' main menu; 'Online learning resources' sub menu.** The presentation includes detail of Glow, e-Sgoil, West-OS and Scholar resources.

Careers

Mick Burns Careers Adviser
Email: mick.burns@sds.co.uk
Mobile: 07887 831454

Twitter: MickBurns2

Blog: www.edubuzz.org/careers

Employability talk Monday 17 January 2022 4pm

If you are leaving school this year and looking for employment, training or apprenticeship vacancies please join us online via the Google Meet link in your S6 Google Classroom. If you are in S4 or S5 then please request the link from Mr Burgess cburgess@edubuzz.org This session will introduce you to main websites you need to use to find suitable vacancies and will last about 20 to 30mins. Summer vacancies are advertised now so please come along and future sessions will include CV, applications and interview preparation.

S2 Careers Talks

With S2 option choice approaching we have delivering our careers talks to all S2 classes thisweek. You can view the talk [here](#) and this forms part of the PSE programme that will include accessing career resources for pupils and parents online at www.myworldofwork.co.uk

www.edubuzz.org/careers

I have posted updates on, **Meducators**, health careers related activities, **Women Returners** to employment programmes, **Females in Stem** career opportunities, **Free Bus Travel** for 5-21 year old in Scotland, and **Scottish Power** apprenticeships on the blog recently.

RETTIE vacancies

If you want to be part of an ever-changing industry, playing a key role in shaping our future, whilst delivering the best possible service for our customers, then please have a look at our current vacancies. We commit to supporting opportunities to learn, grow and develop. Our values-led culture, and approach to inclusion and diversity, means we can all make a real difference together. More details [here](#)

Apprenticeship and vacancies for Edinburgh and Lothians are updated weekly by our SDS Edinburgh colleagues at: www.facebook.com/SDSEdinburgh

Portrait Artist of the Year 2021

If you follow this little gem of a programme you will know that the winner's commission was to paint a portrait of musician, Nicola Benedetti. Well, a few years ago I managed to secure an interview with her while she was staying in Aberlady. I hope you find time to have a listen [here](#) and this podcast and transcript is aimed at all young people not just those interested in musical careers. By the way, Nicola had been rehearsing all day and still found time (10:30pm!) to talk about her career journey and influences!

Tarmac Dunbar vacancies [here](#)

BBC Careers

Ready to launch your career at the BBC? Whether you are a graduate, school leaver or looking for the opportunity to change your career, our new talent schemes could kick start your passion into a job that you love.

Details [here](#)

Parents Presentation

You can access our presentation issued recently which covers (very quickly!) what we do at NBHS and links to our resources [here](#)

S4-6 and considering college as an option? The college preparation talks were delivered this week and you can view the presentation [here](#) if you have any questions please email: mick.burns@sds.co.uk as soon as possible.

Edinburgh College January start courses [here](#)

We're Podcasting again!

I have added 2 podcasts from the Modern Languages Dept.

Find out about German Teaching Assistant Lisa's journey and how languages will feature in her future plans [here](#)

After a long absence I am adding to our bank of interviews and this [one](#) features working and studying in languages/business/teaching

AMEY, Morrisons, Leonardo, Form3, Atkins, Morrisons and Actelligent are all offering Graduate Apprenticeships to school leavers. Degree level study and up to £20,500 salary, more information at www.apprenticeship.scot

We have delivered two **S5 careers talks** to the whole year and you can view the content [here](#) You will find the survey an interesting snapshot of their future plans!

Graduate Apprenticeship (work and study for a degree) vacancies in Engineering and Business at www.apprenticeship.scot

BAE Systems apprenticeship recruitment [here](#)

Covid Mitigations

The latest update to schools guidance from the Scottish Government came on **Wednesday 5th January**. This update reiterates that:

- Secondary pupils are encouraged to take a Lateral Flow test regularly – tests are being distributed more efficiently in school now, in accordance with the updated guidance; any young person is still able to request test kits at reception if that's easier for them.
- Face coverings remain a vital Covid mitigation. All young people and staff are encouraged to bring them from home and must wear them appropriately, unless exempt. (We are finding an increasing number of young people are expecting to pick up a mask at reception on a daily basis!)
- Hand hygiene remains important – sanitiser is readily available in school.
- Distancing remains in place for pupils-teachers and adult-adult. For us at NBHS, something that really helps create smooth movement around school is our one way system – staff have been asked to remind pupils regularly to adhere to this.
- Ventilation is important too – I realise some rooms are chilly at the moment and pupils and staff are more than welcome to dress warmly to compensate for this. We are able to monitor classroom temperatures to ensure no room is unreasonably cold.



Key Changes to Self-Isolation Guidance summary (6th January)

Positive cases are advised to self-isolate for 10 days. However, if the individual returns two consecutive negative LFD tests taken at least 24 hours apart with the first test no earlier than day 6 they may end isolation before the end of the 10 day period if they have no fever.

Close contacts who are fully vaccinated, having received 3 doses of the vaccination (plus 14 days) or are aged under 18 years and 4 months, can take daily LFD tests for 7 days instead of isolation - provided the tests are negative and they remains without symptoms. If someone has not received 3 doses of the vaccination, they will need to book a PCR test and even if this is a negative result, they will need to isolate for 10 days.

Advice on confirmatory PCR tests where people test positive on a lateral flow device (LFD) test they are now not advised to get a PCR test to confirm infection but to follow isolation advice as it applies to them as a positive case – there is an exception for people who may be eligible for the Self-Isolation Support Grant who are advised to take a PCR test to ensure they can confirm their infection to be potentially eligible for financial support.

Parents coming into school building

Please note that the following COVID-19 mitigation measure remains in place during this time: parents and carers cannot come into the school building. Unfortunately, this means that if your child forgets something, you cannot drop the item off at school for them.

We also continue to adhere to national and local advice regarding any school excursions, events and activities.

Attendance Mailbox

Separate from the East Lothian COVID-19 email address mentioned above, we would like to remind you that NBHS has a dedicated email address for all attendance matters. There is no need to phone the school – just send an email to the attendance address below, giving the detail of absence, appointments etc. **Please be sure to include the reason for your child being absent from school**; we need this information to ensure that all absences are recorded correctly. We recommend that you add this email address to your contacts so this it is quick and easy for you to access:

attendance@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk

NBHS Communications

Just a reminder that if you wish to contact school you should email us at the communications email address below, or contact your child's guidance teacher directly. If your child is absent from school, please contact the dedicated absence line

communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk

Dates for your Diary

- S3 Virtual Parents' Evening – **Monday 17th January**
- Next Parent Council meeting **Wednesday 26th January**