

Parent Update – Friday 29 March 2019

April Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 2 April	Spring Concert
Wednesday 3 April	S1 Parents' Evening
Friday 5 April	School closes
Tuesday 23 April	School opens
Tuesday 25 April	SQA exams start; study leave starts
Tuesday 30 April	Parent School Partnership meeting

Spring Concert – last few tickets will be available on Monday

There will be a few tickets for the Spring Concert made available to buy at the school office on Monday 1 April. These will be allocated on a first come, first served basis and we will be unable to hold any in reserve. Tickets are £5 for adults and £3 for concessions.

Sustaining North Berwick Earth Hour

Sustaining North Berwick is holding a Celebrating Earth Hour event on Saturday 30 March, from 2-4pm at the Abbey Church in North Berwick.

The NBHS Eco-Committee will be there, along with many other organisations, to offer information and ideas about reducing plastic, energy efficiency and climate footprint and recycling. Do come along if you can.

2019 Final Exam Timetables

Final exam timetables will be given out to S4-6 pupils during registration on **Monday 1 April**. These timetables will now detail:

- Exam start and finish times
- Exam venue
- Additional assessment arrangements for applicable pupils

This exam timetable, printed on yellow paper, is the final timetable pupils will receive. They must not lose it.

Pupils will hear important details about their exams and study-leave arrangements during exam assemblies at the following times next week:

- S4 Thursday registration
- S5 Friday registration
- S6 Wednesday Period 4

It is extremely important that all senior students are at these assemblies.

Please refer to the school website for recent post(s) on SQA Exams 2019.

NBHS S3 Netball Scottish Schools Gold Cup Champions

The NBHS S3 netball team is celebrating after winning the Scottish Schools Gold Cup. This is the second time the girls have lifted the cup, having also won as S1s in 2017.

The girls started their campaign in October and have remained unbeaten throughout the competition. They topped the group stage, sending them directly into the Gold stream. NBHS then went on to beat Glasgow Gaelic School 55:25 at home in the 3rd round, before being drawn in a difficult fixture away to Peebles - last year's cup holders - in the next round, a challenge which the girls took in their stride, winning 44:32. The semi-final was against last year's losing finalists Douglas Ewart High School, and again the girls comfortably took victory 45:30 which put them into the finals against Holyrood High School – the team which knocked them out last year. Once the girls took to the court at the finals it was clear they were in it to win it. Holyrood fought till the very end but NBHS was too strong and the final score was an emphatic 50:22.

Another fantastic achievement – congratulations girls!

Team: Sophie Hetherington, Lois Turnbull, Katie Lennox (c), Grace Tremlett, Annabelle Conroy, Keira Maynard, Ellen Maslen, Marcia Callander and Ella Malaika Spring.

HPV Injections

A reminder that our S1 and S2 girls (and some catch-ups) will be receiving their HPV injection on Wednesday 24 April.

National 5 and Higher English Revision and Exam Advice

The English department has collated some useful advice to help pupils who are sitting their National 5 or Higher exam this year. This has been distributed to the pupils and can also be viewed on the school website or by copy and pasting the following link into your browser: <https://www.edubuzz.org/northberwickhigh/2019/03/29/national-5-and-higher-english-revision-and-exam-advice/>

MIXER Reuse Initiative – Free Clothes for Kids in East Lothian

Mixer CIC is a non-profit social enterprise in East Lothian. Their “Big Pick” initiative aims to eradicate clothing poverty in the county. Mixer now have a permanent retail outlet in Musselburgh High Street. All children's clothes will be free on the last Sunday of each month.

Each family can take up to 2 kg of children's clothes (including shoes) which must be checked out at the counter so that they can record weights. This initiative will be trialled for three months to ascertain demand. If we cannot supply to meet demand from current donations the decision may be made to work towards a referral system, an expansion of the donation bank network or a combination of both.

School uniforms and wellies are free every day and anyone requiring a suit for interview will also be assisted in the same way.

Host Families Sought for International Students

We have had a request from MyEducation UK to help source families who might be willing to host international students who hope to study in Scotland for an academic year.

These students come to the UK to immerse themselves in life, both at home with their host family and in their school community. The students are here for more than a holiday, they want to experience real life and live like a local while on exchange.

- The students are highly motivated with a strong academic background in their home country
- All applicants are carefully screened in their home country by our trusted partner organisations
- All students are aged 16-17 and have at least 4 years of experience with the English language
- The students are highly motivated with a passion for learning and have a desire to become part of the local community
- The students will attend school full-time and work hard to improve their English and participate in all levels of school life
- All students are placed with a local family and have the support of a local Area Representative as well as the support of staff in the MyEducation office.
- Many of the students hope to return to the UK and attend a university once they have completed their exchange programme

Students specify their interests on their application form so that they can be placed with host families with similar interests so that the exchange can be a positive experience for both the family and the student and integration into the family unit is made easier. This year a female student from Switzerland has expressed an interest in being located somewhere where she can play golf so North Berwick, or nearby, was an obvious choice! There are also other students from Germany, Italy and Denmark who are coming to Scotland and looking for host families.

There is a monthly remuneration for hosting the students to help towards their food and utility usage whilst on programme. All other costs are covered by the student.

If you are interested in hosting, copy and paste the following link into your browser for more information: <https://myeducationuk.co.uk/host-a-student/become-a-host-school.aspx>.
Alternatively, the Student Manager can be contacted on 02380 970924.

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