



NBHS WEEKLY UPDATE
Friday 25th November 2022

Message from HT

Hello everyone –

This week I have done a lot of reflecting on equity and what that really means in our community and across East Lothian. It was great to meet with a small group of head teachers and officers to consider this together, in terms of our curriculum and wider curriculum. Indeed, our whole school staff CAT (Collegiate Activity Time) session on Friday is on this theme.

It was also a huge pleasure to meet with the PTA this week, to show them around the school and especially the new HE and canteen facilities. It's clear we share aspiration to improve the school learning environment, inside and out. A really productive and useful meeting, as was the Parent Council meeting on Tuesday. Thank you so much to all who attended. We spoke about all of the reviews and consultations on the future of Scottish Education and about how best to recognise positive achievement, amongst other things.

I've also been involved in class visits this week as part of our Faculty Review programme – so good to be in there experiencing what it is like for our learners to learn at NBHS, and to work in partnership with all staff on our continuing quest to make our learning and teaching excellent. I also visited 2P5 in Drama this week to say how proud I was of their fantastic homework and work ethic recently – expect some praise postcards to follow!

Our first post-pandemic Model United Nations takes place today! Huge thanks to Ms Martin and her team for organising this opportunity and to all invited delegates for their enthusiastic preparations. It's wonderful to have this up and running once more and it was great to be there at the start to deliver a short welcome to colleagues and young people from across the county.

May I also take this opportunity to wish our seniors all the very best of luck with Block 1 prelims next week – they have been encouraged to look after themselves, try their best, and remember that a prelim is simply a way of capturing where they are on their learning journey right now and can be used to support them to focus on key areas moving forwards. They are lovely young people and I wish them well.

Have a great weekend!

Mrs Moore

Tutor Time Attendance

A reminder that **all pupils including S6 are required to attend school from 8:30am each morning to attend their tutor group**. Tutor Time is a key way to disseminate information, including when our in-person assemblies take place in the hall – these events are a hugely important part of our school ethos and our connectivity as a community.

Staff and pupils at NBHS continue to work together to consider ways to improve punctuality – watch this space!

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS 	
MINUTES LATE	IMPACT ON ATTENDANCE IN A YEAR
5 MINUTES A DAY	3.4 DAYS 98.4% ATTENDANCE
10 MINUTES A DAY	6.9 DAYS 97.6% ATTENDANCE
15 MINUTES A DAY	10.3 DAYS 94.6% ATTENDANCE
20 MINUTES A DAY	13.8 DAYS 92.9% ATTENDANCE
30 MINUTES A DAY	20.7 DAYS 89.2% ATTENDANCE

The Hayward Review – come along to an information and discussion session to find out more!

Phase 2 of this consultation to explore possible changes to the way qualifications and assessments work in Scotland, as part of an independent review led by Professor Louise Hayward, is now underway and closes on 16th December.

Please consider contributing to this important consultation by sharing your views using this link: [Supporting documents - Education - qualifications and assessment review: consultation - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/Supporting%20documents%20-%20Education%20-%20qualifications%20and%20assessment%20review%3A%20consultation) and in particular, the parent/carers survey which will be of interest here: [Parents and Carers Survey \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/Parents%20and%20Carers%20Survey)

We would like to offer an opportunity to any interested parents/carers to come along to a session to find out more about some of the key questions and topics with Mrs Clubb, Acting DHT, and Mrs Moore, HT, on **Tuesday 13th December 9-10am** here in school.

To support our planning, please let us know if you would like to attend this session by emailing communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk by **Friday 2nd December**.

JINGLE BAG APPEAL 2022



Not everyone looks forward to Christmas and it can be a hard time of year for those who are struggling to feed themselves and their families. The East Lothian Foodbank Jingle Bags contain everything needed to celebrate Christmas dinner with all the trimmings.

We're asking each tutor group to fill a Jingle Bag with a family Christmas dinner or more than one bag if they can. All items must be non-perishable and in school by **2nd December**:

- Chicken/turkey (tinned)
- Potatoes (tinned/packet mash)
- Carrots (tinned)
- Peas (tinned)
- Sweetcorn (tinned)
- Gravy (packet)
- Bread Sauce (packet)
- Stuffing (packet/box)
- Christmas pudding
- Custard
- Mince Pies
- Biscuits
- Chocolate/Selection Pack
- Christmas Savoury Snacks

Make a real difference and give a local family a Christmas to remember!

Volunteering with School Duke of Edinburgh

Duke of Edinburgh is a wonderful programme, and we always have more S3 pupils wishing to take part than we have spaces available. The parent council have expressed interest in recruiting parent helpers, to allow us to increase the number of spaces we can offer. This would be amazing. This link gives an overview of the different roles within the team of adults delivering Duke of Edinburgh. <https://www.dofe.org/run/volunteerroles/>. In addition we may require minibus drivers, qualified with MIDAS or equivalent. If you are at all interested in offering some time to help us to broaden our D of E offer, please contact the parent council at parentcouncil@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk. We will run an information evening shortly for potential volunteers, where we can go into more detail about the support we need, and the ways in which we can support volunteers to gain the qualifications they may require

Young people gain a huge amount from Duke of Edinburgh, and I personally find it very rewarding to be part of helping that to happen. I do hope some of you may have time to commit to helping us to expand our offer.

Robert Jones

Depute headteacher

North Berwick Parking Consultation

East Lothian Council is proposing improvements to parking management arrangements in all local town centres and is holding consultations with stakeholders and the public to seek their views.

The first consultation will seek opinion on the proposal for North Berwick, starting on the 2nd of November and will run for six weeks until the 13th of December 2022.

A public walk in event will be hosted at North Berwick Community Centre on Thursday the 24th of November 1.00pm - 8.00 pm, and on Saturday the 26th of November from 10.00a.m. - 2.00.p.m.

If you have any questions please email parkingconsultations@eastlothian.gov.uk

SSAA Secondary Indoor T&F Championships

If you are interested in entering this event, please read the entry standards carefully. Please email cparry@elcschool.org.uk and I will submit your entry. Please note that parents / carers are responsible for payment of the entry fees, and transport to and from, and supervision at this event.

Any questions, please just let me know.

Thanks, Miss Parry

Community Arts Consultation

To assist with future planning, East Lothian Council Arts Service and The Brunton Theatre Trust are carrying out a consultation into East Lothian residents' views about participatory arts activities at The Brunton in Musselburgh and also out in the community, across East Lothian. This consultation is taking place in order to get residents' views and to make sure activities respond to identified interests and needs.

Individuals and groups are being encouraged to complete a survey accessed on East Lothian Council's consultation portal, linked to here <https://bit.ly/ArtsViews>

Hard copies of the survey are available to pick up in East Lothian libraries and from The Brunton box office counter. The survey will be available to complete until 10 December.

The results of the consultation will be used to develop plans for arts activities going forward.

NBHS Breakfast Club



Breakfast Club is up and running on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 0750-0820. We're trialling a new location – at the back of the assembly hall at the school entrance! It's a drop in, so come any time before 0820.

All welcome.

Any questions, please contact Miss Parry in P.E. - cparry@elcschool.org.uk

North Berwick High School Christmas Concert Tuesday 6th December 7pm

All performers have now been set up on i-pay for Christmas Concert seat reservations. Seats can be reserved from Tuesday 22nd November onwards (initially maximum 2 tickets reserved per performer) at the cost of £3 each.

From Monday 28th November onwards additional seat reservations can be made on a first come first served basis, again on i-pay.

We look forward to seeing many of you there!

Ms Spooner/Mrs Loudon

Christmas Dances and Social Dancing in core PE

After a successful fitness block in core PE we are very excited to announce the start of our social dancing block. Social dancing has been on the PE programme for decades at NBHS and has moved with the times to be inclusive, nurturing and respectful. There is a buzz of excitement around this, particularly from the senior pupils, but also some nervous energy at the thought of dancing with others. Pupils will learn about the traditional Scottish culture but also embrace some modern dance moves that are incorporated into these dances. Each year group create their own magical moments at this time of year and seeing them work so closely together, trusting each other and respecting the feelings of others is absolutely fantastic. We understand there is sometimes a feeling of trepidation at the thought of social dancing but we will take time at the beginning of the block to explain the 'NBHS way' of teaching this as it usually fills pupils with festive laughter and enjoyment.

The provisional Christmas Dance dates are as follows with more information being issued in the coming weeks:

Date	Year Group	Time
Thursday 8 th December*	S3/4	7 – 9.30 pm
Tuesday 13 th December	S2	6 – 8pm
Wednesday 14 th December	S1	6 - 8pm
Thursday 15 th December	S5/6	7 – 10pm

*Subject to change

CLEANERS REQUIRED

- North Berwick High School
- 20-30hrs per week Mon-Fri
- Term time contract
- Hourly rate £9.90
- Any successful candidates will be subject to a full PVG check.

Any interested parties should email kMcCann@fes-group.co.uk in the first instance.

Careers

Mick Burns Careers Adviser

Email: mick.burns@sds.co.uk

Mobile: 07887 831454

Twitter: MickBurns2

Blog: www.edubuzz.org/careers

This session I will try to update using the careers blog above and highlight relevant information, resources and events.

SDS Staffing

A very warm welcome to our new Careers Adviser, Dearbhla Gallagher, who will be joining us from Monday 28 November. Dearbhla will cover Monday and Thursdays while I cover Tuesdays and Wednesdays. A big thank you to our colleague Emma Veitch who stays as our designated Work Coach but has help cover a lot of our school work this term.

S3 Careers interviews.

As part of our Partnership Agreement, all S3 students are offered a 1 to 1 careers interview and we will start these with 3C, 3F1, 3F2 and some from 3G from Tuesday 29 November to Thursday 1 December. The students will be emailed in advance and receive an appointment slip at their registration class on the day. It would be very helpful if you could remind them to check their edubuzz emails and keep their appointments on the day. The other classes will be interviewed in January.

Applying for College 2023

We delivered the talk in school on Monday 21 November and you can view the session [here](#) and you can still fill in the Google Form if you missed the session.

University of Glasgow - Computing Graduate Apprenticeships event [here](#)

Updated apprenticeships and vacancies [here](#)

Scot JCB Limited vacancy Haddington [here](#)

ELC Libraries part time vacancies [here](#)

SAAS funding sessions for parents and carers [here](#)

S5 Careers Talks

Delivered this week and you can view the presentation [here](#)

Royal College of Surgeons Christmas Lecture [here](#)

Podcast

It is always great to meet up with and hear from former students and how their journey has developed since leaving school. I really enjoyed hearing Matthew's [story](#) and would suggest it's worth a viewing as it covers quite a bit of ground and water!

Christmas recruitment opportunities [here](#)

Allied Health Professions Careers [here](#) and we have paper copies in the school library – thanks to Alison for delivering these!

Christmas Vacancies/Jobs 2022 [here](#)

The S4 careers talks have been delivered this week and you can view and download our newsletter [here](#)

Some feedback from our S4 2022 careers talk [here](#) – well I did ask the questions!

Attendance Mailbox

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

S4 Virtual Parents' Evening – Monday 28th November
Christmas Concert – Tuesday 6th December

Christmas Dance Dates -

- Thursday 8th December S3/4 7-9.30 pm (subject to change)
- Tuesday 13th December S2 6-8pm
- Wednesday 14th December S1 6-8pm
- Thursday 15th December S5/6 7-10pm

Future Parent Council meetings –

- Monday 16th January
- Wednesday 8th March
- Thursday 25 May

All 7-8:30pm in school.