



NBHS WEEKLY UPDATE
Friday 19th May 2023

Message from HT

The beautiful blossom tree outside my office has come and gone – a sign that spring is moving into summer perhaps. Transitions all around as we gear up for our P7s coming to visit in June and our change of timetable on Monday 5th June. Staff are moving on to new phases and ventures and we are busy with recruitment as you can see below, as is typical of this time of year.

I can barely believe I am nearing completion of my second year in post and often reflect on the journey I've been on – it started with dishing out facemasks and online meetings with staff and parents, migrated into the sheer joy of reconnection and increased freedom to come together once more, facing the challenges of the extension block delays and opening, experiencing the wonder of the NBHS Christmas dances and concerts, and now taking stock and planning for next year. There is so much I have missed from this list but I am committed to doing the best job I can for all in our community.

Our staff inservice day is on Monday 22nd May and school will be closed to pupils.

Finally, a reminder that the next NBHS Parent Council meeting is on Thursday 25th May 7-8:30pm in the HE breakout space in the extension block here at school. The agenda includes whole school timetabling and curriculum, our School Improvement Plan priorities, the results of the parent/carer survey on school trips and transition to the new academic year.

Have a great weekend!
Mrs Moore

Staffing Update

Ms Kelly Biskup, our school auxiliary, has moved on to pastures new. We wish her well in her future endeavours and thank her for all she has contributed to our school during her time with us.

Ms Julia Spooner, Head of Performing Arts, will be leaving us at the end of June after 17 years working at NBHS.

This week, we have welcomed Ms Ali Thayne to the Pupil Support faculty as PT Pupil Support (Guidance – Fidra House).

We will shortly welcome Ms Catriona Dugan to the Maths department – Ms Dugan is an experienced teacher who comes to us from Trinity Academy in Edinburgh.

Mr Craig Stebbing, currently PT Pupil Support (Guidance – Law House) will move to a full time permanent post in the Maths department in August.

We will also shortly welcome Ms Alexandra Lockhart as our brand new Teacher of ASN (Inclusion) supporting Mrs Tricia Shepherd and her team in the Pupil Support Base. Huge thanks to Ms Karen Grant who has been doing the role on a temporary basis.

Recruitment is underway for 2 new PT Pupil Support (Guidance – Glen House following Mrs Casson’s retiral in June; Guidance – Law House) and updates will be shared as soon as possible.

S2 Football Result

Cardinal Newman HS 5 - North Berwick HS 0

The S2 boys football team were in action in the Scottish Plate semi-final on Thursday 11th May. After an excellent run in the competition, the boys couldn't quite match their previous performances as they came up against very strong opposition.

Thank you for all the support on the night from a strong contingent of friends and family in attendance in Fauldhouse. We go again next year!

Player of the Match: Harrison Holt



Scottish Youth Cup Final

Well done and congratulations to Rob Gleeson, Craig McEwan Ness and Jamie Storey who were part of the Musselburgh Windsor U/14s team that won the Scottish Youth FA Cup Final, 2023. Windsor beat Gairdoch United 3-2 after extra time. Rob, Craig and Jamie all put in fine performances, with Jamie scoring the winning goal in extra time. Craig was awarded the golden boot for Man of the Match.



S1 & 2 Sports Day

We are planning to suspend part of our timetable for S1 and S2 pupils on **Monday 29th May** to run our annual sports day for S1 and 2 pupils. S2 pupils will compete in events during periods 1-4 and S1 pupils will compete during periods 5-7.

Pupils will earn points for their house team for taking part and earn more depending on placing.

Winners of the events will be invited to represent the school in the East Lothian County Sports Championship, held at Meadowmill Sports Complex, on Wednesday 14th June. A sign up form has been posted on their year group google classroom and we will assist with this process next week.

Pupils can come to school in their sports clothes but please remind them to bring water bottles and sun cream.

Finger crossed for nice weather and an action packed day of athletics.

Young Ambassadors 2023-24

We are looking to recruit two new S6 Young Ambassadors for NBHS for the coming academic year.

Young Ambassadors roles are to promote sport, and motivate and inspire other young people to get involved in sport in their schools, clubs and local communities.

The Young Ambassador programme is a national programme, run by sportscotland, and there are two YAs in every school in Scotland. This link will give you a little bit more information about the national programme - <https://sportscotland.org.uk/schools/young-ambassadors/>

If you're interested in becoming one of our Young Ambassadors, please answer these questions, and email them to cparry@elcschool.org.uk by 1600 on Friday 9 June.

- What would you do in our school to motivate and inspire young people to get involved in sport in our school and community?
- Give an example of an event or project that you would like to complete in your role as Young Ambassador
- Why do you think you'd be a good Young Ambassador for NBHS?

Exams 2023

Please remember that all pupils who are on study leave cannot come into school unless it is for an exam.

Here is the recording of the assembly that went over behaviour during exams for senior pupils: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rEOBRNS9_iU

In March the SQA launched Your Exams 2023 for learners sitting National Qualifications. It is available to view and download from their website. The publication includes helpful advice and important rules learners must read and understand before they sit their exams.

Hard copies have been given to learners.

[Visit the website](#)

SAAS

SAAS is open for 2023/24 applications.

Senior students should submit their applications now and before the deadline of 30 June to guarantee their funding in time for their course starting. Explore the budget and funding calculators on the Student Information website, a handy tool for students, parents and teachers to learn more about the budget required for individual courses.

See the website: [Student Awards Agency Scotland - SAAS - Funding Your Future](#)

PTA

Everyone is welcome to come along to our next **PTA MEETING on Tuesday 6th June at 7pm at the High School**. Please get in touch if have any questions or want to know more.

The NBHS PTA needs new committee members and a new Chair.

We support school events and raise vital funds for the school and its students and can't do it without volunteers. To find out how you can get involved and make a difference please drop us an email at ptanhbs@gmail.com



NBHS Homework Notifications

Our school policy is to notify parents/carers when homework is not attempted and to ask for your support to ensure that the assignment is completed. This is an important part of our home-school communication.

We are keen to emphasise that this notification is for information only and is not a sanction for the pupil. The use of the notification allows teachers to act consistently and it signals to pupils that we always make parents aware so they can form their own judgements. The decision on further action (if any) is left with the family.

Where a pupil has a valid reason for not completing homework, a very brief note from a parent is always appreciated and avoids the need to send a notification.

School Leavers – Edubuzz Accounts

IT have advised that accounts will remain active until October. Please ensure between now and then you:

- Download and save any work you wish to keep from your drive.
- Forward any emails you wish to keep to a personal email address.
- Update the email address associated with accounts where currently it is your edubuzz one. For example college, SAAS, UCAS, Scratch etc. Or maybe you have the email linked to verification

when signing in to a personal email or device/app. Or maybe you've set it as the email for a password reset.

You have until 30 September 2023.

Summer Camp – Get NBHS Green!

25 – 27 July 2023, 10am – 3pm

Are you looking for something worthwhile and **free** to do during the summer holidays?

Would you like NBHS to have more plants and trees? We will design and create outdoor social areas, surrounded by greenery.

Come with friends to plant a tree and stay for a free lunch!

To sign up or if you have any questions please email: hfelton@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk and please see the attached poster.

Summer Learn To Sail Camps & Improver Courses in North Berwick

This summer join East Lothian Yacht Club, learn to sail and have the use of the club boats all year round.

Develop new skills and make new friends in beautiful North Berwick with our friendly dolphins regularly accompanying our sailors.

Following the RYA syllabus we offer courses for complete beginners to advanced sailors. For keen cadets we offer a great progression pathway to become competitive sailors with weekly events and professional coaching, or to become sailing instructors of the future, developing their life skills, and recording volunteer hours. **Ages 11- Adult.**

Please see the attached poster.

Book now to secure your space: www.elyc.org.uk/training

Boys Hockey

The East Lothian hockey development officer will be running 2 boys hockey sessions at NBHS on Wednesday 17 and 24 May, 1530-1630. This is open to all years groups, and boys who have played before, or who are just starting.

If you'd like to come along, please complete this form -

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSceMw5kPZMf94KUXxtC_I7LkMQOw2I7m2HSu6gyVYtUGj2DUg/viewform?usp=sf_link

Also see the attached poster for boys hockey at Meadowmill on Monday evenings.

North Berwick Youth Project

WHAT'S ON?

Tuesdays

- 3:30 to 5:30pm – Out'n>About Outdoor group
- 5 to 6pm – Online Cookery

Wednesdays

- 3:30 to 4:30pm – FREE yoga at NBHS in the mirrored gym
- 3:30 to 4:30pm – Out'n>About Outdoor group
- 4:30 to 5:30pm – Girls Group

Thursdays

- 3:30 to 4:30pm – ZAP
- 5.00 to 6.00pm – FREE boxing classes

Fridays

- 12:30 to 4pm – Drop in at Youth Project

For more information, please visit our website www.northberwickyouthproject.org.uk or get in touch with our Lead Youth Worker, Beth. beth@northberwickyouthproject.org.uk

To book a space, or find out more info, please get in touch with our Outdoor Youth Worker, Natalie. natalie@northberwickyouthproject.org.uk



Ukrainian Gathering

Come and join an informal conversation, storytelling, songs and music to celebrate Ukrainian culture in a participant led, relaxed setting at Poldrate Arts + Crafts Centre (max 20 people).

If you are interested please email Fiona with the number of people and whether you are interested in singing or playing music so we can arrange accompaniment. If you play an instrument and have one to bring that would be great but not essential - fiona@haddstock.co.uk or text/WhatsApp on 07540 723 308 (you can write in Ukrainian, we can get it translated).

Please get in touch by the 25th May.

The session will be at Poldrate Arts + Crafts Centre (2nd floor Granary) on Sunday 28th May from 3.30pm - 5.45 pm.

Refreshments will be provided, and children are welcome.

NBHS Dress Code – mythbuster

Contrary to rumour, staff at NBHS are keen to see young people dressed appropriately for school in our agreed dress code. This contributes to our positive school ethos. We ask for your support with this.

The November 2020 dress code can be found here:

<https://www.edubuzz.org/northberwickhigh/schoolinformation/school-dress-code/>

Community Etiquette

All NBHS pupils are reminded of the importance of being respectful and safe when travelling on public buses. We encourage active travel and therefore, taking public buses for short distances when walking would be appropriate (for example, returning to school after lunch) is not

recommended. Any individuals currently using their free bus pass to do this should stop immediately.

Pupils are also asked to enter local shops when purchasing items rather than a whole group accompanying one friend who is buying something. This is to ensure all members of the public are able to access shops at all times and to avoid unnecessary crowding.

Representing our school in the community positively is everyone's responsibility. Please think, manage your time and act responsibly.

Careers

Mick Burns Careers Adviser

Email: mick.burns@sds.co.uk

Mobile: 07887 831454

Twitter: MickBurns2

Blog: www.edubuzz.org/careers

Dearbhla Gallagher Careers Adviser (she/her)

Email: dearbhla.gallagher@sds.co.uk

Mobile: 07920 152537

Latest updates on the careers [blog](#) include:

The next update will be posted on the 30 May newsletter.

For all 2023 leavers - Remember that we are still your Careers Advisers even after leaving so please feel free to contact us if we can be of any assistance in the future.

NBHS Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is up and running on Tuesday and Thursdays, 07:50-08:20, in the canteen, nearest the Assembly Hall.

All welcome!

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



Bus Turning Circle

Parents and carers are respectfully asked not to come into the bus turning circle at the beginning and end of the day to drop pupils/students off. Signage states this is for Authorised Vehicles Only.

Thank you

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

Monday 24th April – Friday 3rd June inclusive - SQA Exam Diet and Study Leave. All return for change of timetable on Monday 5th June.

Staff Inservice Day – Monday 22nd May – school closed to pupils

NBHS Parent Council meeting 7-8:30pm in school:

- Thursday 25 May