

Newbattle High School

Headteacher Update

Week Ending 8th October

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh

Congratulations to our 13 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh achievers. Some are now working towards their silver award.



Continued Litter Picks

Well done to our Nurture team, lunchtime volunteers and to the gardening elective class who again continue to take pride in our areas by collecting litter.

School Dress Code

Thank you very much to all those who are taking pride in our school dress code. Please remind your young person to change back into school uniform (no leggings or joggers) after their PE lessons. This helps for a number of reasons including pride in our school, being part of a team, equality of dress and mostly safety. When we are all in school dress code, staff can identify anyone not in uniform quickly ensuring they are part of our school. This will become even more important as community areas of our school open up.

Charity Week for Cancer Awareness

Our Senior Prefects have set up a 'Go Fund Me' page to allow parent/carers to donate to the cause:

[Newbattle HS Charity Week Fundraiser](#)

Next week we will raise funds for Teenage Cancer Trust and Prostate Scotland. We will be running various fundraising events and there will be no disruption to learning and teaching or to the timetable. Any small donation will be thankfully received, but only where you can.

Fundraising events will range from:

- All week -
 - Hand in contributions to our office.
 - Loose change days where everyone can hand in their spare change to the office
 - Staff and senior prefects are planning other events

- Tuesday 12th October - Rock band will play the school out. There will be loose change buckets where donations can be made.
- Tuesday 12th October - HE dept are running a MacMillan Coffee Morning
- Wednesday 13th October - HE are running a staff bake off
- Friday 15th October - Full school dress down day. Bring £1 and wear blue (the colour which links our two cancer charities)

The money raised will be split equally between **Teenage Cancer Trust** and **Prostate Scotland**.

Teenage Cancer Trust (<https://www.teenagecancertrust.org/>)

Schools see the brilliant work Teenage Cancer Trust does on a yearly basis within their communities. Unfortunately this is more common across schools than is possibly realised.

Prostate Scotland (<https://www.prostatescotland.org.uk>)

Colin Taylor is the previous Headteacher to me and was here for over 17yrs as well as having acted as Head of Education. He is a very well respected and regarded member of our community. Colin continues to undergo treatment and we wish him and his family well.

I'm sure our school and community will support these fully, where we can, to help these good causes.

S4 Lockers

S4 pupils will have the opportunity to purchase a locker from Monday, 11th October. A deposit of £5 is required for a locker - correct money only accepted. Pupils should visit the school office at break or lunch time only.

Counselling for 10-18-year-olds

Do you have a young person (10-18 years) in your care and you're worried about their mental health?

Our partner agency, MYPAS (Midlothian Young People's Advice Service) offers counselling for young people in this age group, regardless of whether they are at school, education or training.

In secondary schools, supported self-referrals by young people are managed by guidance teams. So while we promote the service in school, if you are worried about your child, you may want to encourage them to self-refer.

The child or young person can only be referred with their consent.

Young people not at a local authority school, have left school or who do not want the referral to go through Education, can go to MYPAS directly.

▪ [Find out more by clicking here](#)

Vision and Values

We continue to link our school vision, values and aims in all that we do in school. We spent 2years consulting and finalising these to be launched in 2019. Please read these and share them with your young person.

Career Ready, College Ready, University Ready, Digitally Ready!

Newbattle High School - at the heart of our community. Newbattle High School ensures that all students enjoy their learning in a caring, nurturing ethos and will exceed their potential. All young people will be digitally literate and have the opportunities to progress through pathways towards employment, apprenticeships, College or University. Our school is the first Digital Centre for Excellence in Scotland. This will advantage our pupils and community within, and beyond, the school curriculum digitally.

Our values are Achieve, Include, Motivate and Respect (AIMhigher). The values also break down into what I will do, how it links with others and how it links to my community.



Standards Quality Report and Improvement Plan

Attached (and below) are this year's priorities for the school. This year's full Improvement Plan and the report on last year can be found on our website at: <https://www.newbattle.org.uk/information/>

Newbattle High School - School Improvement Priorities:

<p>1. Attainment & Achievement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving attainment within the BGE, including improvements in moderation of assessment levels and improving curricular pathways in preparation for senior phase Improving attainment in the senior phase, including more robust tracking and analysis of data sets and developing the contribution of the wider achievement programme Developing a culture of collaborative working and professional learning through the SEIC Research School programme
<p>2. Wellbeing & Equity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving equity and inclusion in line with the Midlothian Nurture priorities, as well as through developing restorative approaches in NHS
<p>3. Self Improving Systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-embed the Quality Improvement Framework Embed whole school policies, specifically L,T&A, and Positive Learning Develop the leadership of learning at all levels Embed the use of the L&T Self Evaluation Toolkit Continue to develop approaches to digital learning Improve BGE tracking and data analysis, including in Literacy & Numeracy, which informs future planning and next steps in learning

To get to these priorities we put out questionnaires to parent/carers and consult with pupils, staff and our Parent Council on a yearly basis.

University is for all! Scottish University Open Days 2021

If you wish to attend an Open Day you MUST register on the website of that university:

- Glasgow Caledonian University – Virtual Open Days - Thursday 21st October, Thursday 18th November
- Robert Gordon University – On Campus Open Days - Saturday 30th October, Saturday 20th November
- University of Glasgow – Virtual Open Days - Wednesday 20th October, Thursday 21st October University of Strathclyde – Virtual Open Day - Thursday 28th October
- University of Stirling – Virtual Open Day - Saturday 23rd October
- University of Edinburgh – Virtual Open Days –Saturday 9th October
- University of Dundee – Virtual Open Days - Art Design and Architecture – Saturday 30th October, Thursday 18th November
- Heriot Watt University – On Campus Open Days – running from 2nd October – check website for specific subject area
- Edinburgh Napier University – On Campus Open Day – Saturday 30th October Queen Margaret University – On Campus Open Day - Saturday 23rd October Virtual Open Day - 3rd November
- Glasgow School of Art – Virtual Open Days - 25th to 29th October
- Abertay University – Virtual Open Days - Saturday 30 October
- University of St Andrews – Virtual Open Days - Wednesday 6th October, Wednesday 20th October University of the West of Scotland – Virtual Open Day – Saturday 23rd October

Upcoming Events

12 October	Whole School Flu Vaccinations
15 October	Term Ends
26 October	Pupils Return

All parent/carers should have received their child's tracking report within the last 7-10 days. If you have not received this, please contact the school office.

Any pupils who have not returned their flu consent form will no longer be able to do so. If you haven't returned the form and wish your child to be vaccinated, please contact the Child Health Team directly on 0131 446 4125.

Latest News

You can view the daily updates that is shared with your young person during homeroom by visiting our website, and clicking on the 'Latest News' section:

[Newbattle High School | Latest News](#)