

Newbattle High School

Headteacher Update

Week Ending 17th September



Monday Holiday

A reminder the school will be closed to pupils and staff on Monday 20th September for the autumn holiday. School will resume on Tuesday as normal.

Parent Council Meeting

The Parent Council AGM was held on Wednesday. Thank you to all who attended. All our Parent Council minutes can be found on our website.

- Thank you to Catherine Park who has been chair over the last 2 years and will continue on our group
- Welcome to Malcolm Winning, our new Chairperson
- Andy Westaby has been an excellent Depute and has agreed to continue in this role.

It would be great to have representation from all year groups, communities etc. If you can spare an hour every half term then please contact Louise MacLeod at Newbattle.HS@Midlothian.gov.uk

Please find attached the presentation of successes which we went through.

Litter

We have had complaints from members of the public regarding the amount of litter within the community. As a school we are promoting an anti-litter campaign. We have raised this with pupils during homeroom and PSE lessons, and we are currently looking at ways in which we can do more to support the community with this.

Can we please ask you to discuss the importance of this with your young person at home also.

Covid Absence

A reminder to parents that they must send in a copy of their child's negative PCR test result if they are absent with covid symptoms or they have been contacted by test & protect as being a close contact.

In any instances that we do not have this information, a phone call home will be made to ask for this.

A reminder of the covid helpline for General Enquiries is 0800 028 2816.

Covid Vaccine for 12-15 year olds

Children and young people aged 12 -15 years old will be offered a dose of the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination from Monday 20 September.

Appointment letters will be sent out from 27th September by NHS, however they can also attend the drop in clinics. We have no information currently of the vaccination team visiting the school to do this.

Senior Prefect Leadership Day

What an amazing and talented group of young people!

On Monday 13th September the Senior Prefect Team met for the day with Mr Millar, Miss Lyall and Mr McNicol. The group started with team building activities then moved on to discuss their priorities for the school year. The students looked at different themes including Learning and Teaching, the Wider School Community and Health and Wellbeing to think about how they could get involved and help improve the school. It was so nice to hear every member of the Leadership team talk passionately and confidently about the school and the ideas they came up with were innovative and thoughtful. They want to make sure that every member of the school community is considered and make sure their ideas have a lasting impact so future leadership teams can carry them forward. Newbattle are looking forward to seeing the impact of their work and are very proud of the team.



Newbattle High School 2021-22
Captains



Parent & Carer Evening on Tracking & Monitoring Reports

Thanks to the parents/carers that made time to attend our information evening on tracking and monitoring. I hope those that could attend found it useful and informative. The feedback and questions were really valuable and will allow us to move forward and continue to improve in this area. We are in the process of finalising a version of the presentation that will be available online to watch at your convenience.

The link will be shared through email and Twitter next week.

Flu Vaccinations - 12th October

The last day for handing in flu consent forms is Tuesday 21st September. Any consents returned after this are not guaranteed to receive the vaccination.

S3 Parent/Carer Settling In Meeting, Wednesday 22nd September

The booking system for S3 parents / carers is now open and communication about this was sent out on Monday. The booking system closes on 20th September at 10am. No further bookings can be made after this point.

This is an early **settling in** conversation with subject teachers in response to us being unable to meet with parents/carers at the scheduled time last year when pupils were in S2.

Subject teachers will not have seen classes very often yet and so the short 3 - 4 minute meeting on Wednesday (22nd) is to update parents / carers on progress so far and any specific highlights or next steps going forward.

This meeting will coincide with a BGE tracking report next week, and will be followed up with another parents meeting later in the year. If anyone has not received the information and link to the booking system please contact the school office.