



All Saints' RC Secondary School

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Head Teacher
Mr Brian McDermott

Wednesday, 25th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you and your families are well. I am writing with some key dates and information as we approach the mid-term.

Parent Council

On behalf of the Chair of the Parent Council, I would like to invite any parents who are interested in contributing to the life and direction of the school by joining the Parent Council, to attend our first meeting of this session on **Tuesday, 1st October from 4:15pm**, in All Saints'.

Our numbers are lower than in recent years as many parents' children have now left school. As such, new members are very welcome. It's essential that we have a strong Parent Council and the Chair and I would love to see more of you attending, if you are able. No prior experience is required.

September Weekend

A reminder that the September long weekend starts on **Friday, 27th of September**. As such, school will be closed from 3:35pm on **Thursday, 26th of September** until 8:50am on **Tuesday, 1st of October**.

October Holiday and Inservice Day

On **Friday, 11th of October**, Glasgow schools are closed to pupils to facilitate an in-service day for staff. This coincides with the start of the October holiday week. As such, pupils will finish at 3:35pm on **Thursday, 10th of October** and will return to school at 8:50am on **Monday, 21st of October**. You'll receive a link to our Term 1 'Sway' (newsletter) in the coming weeks.

Culture Day & European Day of Languages

Across this week we have been celebrating different cultures and languages to coincide with European Day of Languages. Tomorrow, **Thursday, 26th of September**, marks the culmination of this week of activities and celebration. As such, our S6 Pupil Leadership Team have requested that tomorrow be ‘Culture Day’ in All Saints’. This is an opportunity for people to dress in a way that celebrates their (or another) national culture and to participate in a range of events throughout the day.

This is not a non-uniform day and it is not mandatory to participate.

Pupils should not attend school in normal casual clothing. Tracksuits/leggings, coloured trainers/shoes, branded jumpers and hoodies etc are not permitted. Neither is this a ‘wear something blue for Scotland’ day or the likes.

Pupils arriving in normal casual clothing will be asked to go home to change into their uniform.

Pupils, if they wish to, can wear national dress, they can adorn themselves in tartan or an equivalent cultural representation. They may wear national team sports strips (but not club strips). Pupils wearing full national dress or sports tops etc. need not wear their uniform.

Other pupils might bring in flags or hats for example or something else to accessorise their school uniform.

Not all pupils will want to participate in this way and I completely understand this; non-uniform days place huge pressure on young people and families and I don’t wish to add that burden at this time. **As such, wearing school uniform will be the norm for most pupils tomorrow** but the opportunity is there for those who wish to express themselves.

The School Day

The school day starts at 8:50am every day. I always keep the gate opened for a few minutes after this each morning because I appreciate that on occasion things can get in the way of the normal order of things first thing in the morning; after 8:55am, pupils should report via the main entrance rather than the pupil entrance.

I’m sure you’ll appreciate that late-coming has a detrimental impact on learning – both for the latecomer and the rest of the class, and I am keen to iron this out.

The majority of young people arrive on time every day, and whilst there will always be an empathetic approach to circumstances beyond people’s control, there are a sizeable *minority* of young people who arrive late *every* morning. I am asking for your support to emphasise the importance of good timekeeping. If there is something getting in the way of an 8:50am start for your child, please let us know and we’ll accommodate as best we can.

If you would like a report on your child’s attendance or timekeeping, please contact their pupil support teacher directly.

As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch should you wish to discuss your child's learning or wellbeing. There is no need to wait for tracking periods or parents' nights to do this – you are welcome any time.

I wish you all a lovely weekend when it comes.

Kind regards

Brian McDermott
Head Teacher
All Saints' RC Secondary