

Perth Grammar

Update Newsletter w/c 18th December 2017

End of Term Arrangements: The school is closing at 12 noon on Friday 22nd December and re-opens on **Monday 8th January 2018** at 8.50am. The last day of term will be a Christmas-themed dress-as-you-please day. Pay £1 and wear your Christmas jumper or just add something seasonal to your get up. All funds raised will go to the School Fund to help support activities we could not run without this support.

For those travelling home by bus on Friday 22nd, the pupils will get home as soon as the buses come but we have no control over what time they will arrive. **Docherty's Service 155** will not arrive at PGS until about 12.40pm, therefore if pupils do not want to wait, alternative arrangements should be made for them to get home.

Message from Head Teacher: Our tree is twinkling in the theatre all set for the Expressive Arts Christmas Concert and there's a lovely buzz around the school. As ever the newsletter presents a great opportunity to share achievements and recognise the success of our learning community.

It is important to highlight the role of our sixth year pupils who were an absolute credit to our school on Thursday evening last week at The Lovat Hotel for their Winter Ball. The dance floor was full all night and the atmosphere was one of glitz and happiness. We had twenty-two staff present and I thank them for their incredible support not only for attending this event but for the many additional times that they give to supporting our children and young people throughout the year.

Term 2 saw an increase of pace in the work that we have kept you informed of in terms of whole school improvement including the ongoing roll out of Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) and our work to delivering on the Career Education Standard. In term 3 we will undergo our Level 1 (Silver) Rights Respecting Schools assessment. This will include identifying the work of children, young people, parents, carers and partners in relation to 'The Rights of the Child'. A summary of this can be found [here](#) and I'd encourage everyone linked to Perth Grammar to take time to familiarise themselves with it.

Our intergenerational work now means that we have fully trained volunteers ready to support our young people with literacy, citizenship and pupil support. Maureen O'Reilly, Intergenerational Development Officer would welcome hearing from any Grandparents who may wish to participate in this programme for two hours per week in 2018. Please contact her via Maureen@generationsworkingtogether.org if interested. In relation to fundraising we have seen £1200 donated to Mary's Meals and third sector partners Mindspace were the winners of the Youth & Philanthropy Initiative (YPI).

Our recent uniform focus has proven very worthwhile however, once again can I please ask that for the small number of young people wearing trainers (instead of black shoes), black jeans or leggings that this is rectified as soon as possible. Parental support with this is hugely valued.

From all at Perth Grammar School we wish you a very pleasant Christmas and we look forward to working with you in 2018.

Best wishes,



Fiona Robertson
Head Teacher

Christmas Concert: All tickets have been sold for our annual Christmas Concert which takes place on Tuesday night from 7pm. Refreshments will be on offer at the end of the concert.

S4-6 Prelims: These are taking place from Monday 15th to Friday 26th January. Pupils will receive their individual exam timetables during the first week back at school after the holidays. Any pupil with a clash of exams should speak to Mr Reid as soon as possible so alternative arrangements can be made for them.

Learner Pathways: As we approach Christmas, we are already planning our curriculum and timetable for next year. Every pupil from S1-S5 will be making choices for their next steps in learning. We will provide detailed information to parents for each year group as and when appropriate. Here is a summary for each year group:

- S1 - Pupils will make a choice of a Wider Achievement elective for S2 – Information will be issued in January.
- S2 - Detailed Pathways information will be issued on 19th December with the S2 Report. The final date for return of this information is 9th February – after the S2 parents meeting on 7th February.
- S3 - Full information for progression into S4 is issued on 2nd February with the S3 Report. However, pupils will discuss their initial choices in January in Social Education. The final date for return is 2nd March.
- S4/5 - Information for moving into S5/6 will be issued on 13th February. Final date for return, Friday 9th March.

Please contact Mr Farrell if you would like to discuss any aspect of these processes.

S5 Pupils - SCOTTISH SPACE SCHOOL @ STRATHCLYDE 2018: The 2018 Scottish Space School @ Strathclyde residential summer school will be held at the University of Strathclyde from 10-15 June 2018 and applications are now being invited via the online application system. Now in its 15th year at the University, the Scottish Space School continues to inspire the next generation of engineers and scientists and is aimed at S5 pupils in Scotland currently studying Maths and Science subjects at Higher level. Applications must be made online and further information and the online application form is available at:

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/engineering/scottishspaceschool/>

If you would like further information or have any questions regarding the programme, please e-mail scottishspaceschool@strath.ac.uk

**We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
See you all in 2018!**