



Lesmahagow High School - Pupil Newsletter: September 2021

Welcome to our pupil newsletter! We hope our pupil newsletters will keep you up to date with what is happening in our school. If there is anything you would like to see included in a future newsletter, or if you would be happy to share stories of your achievements, please let us know.

This week we have completed the filming of the 2021 Prize Giving. Congratulations to all of our prize winners! Once edited, we will share the link to the video. Thank you to everyone involved in organising our Prize Giving.

Please remember to bring a face covering to school each day. It is important that you wear a face covering in school and on school transport at all times, unless you are exempt. Please also remember to sanitise or wash your hands when entering and leaving the school building and classrooms.

Friday 24th and Monday 27th September are school holidays. We hope you have a lovely September weekend break. Stay safe!

Best wishes,

Miss Lee

Acting Head Teacher



1 - Welcome to our new S1 pupils!

Pupil Leadership Team

Our School Captains and Vice Captains were appointed earlier this month and met on Monday 20th September to discuss ideas for improving our school:

School Captains: Laila Eaton and Riyan Siddique

School Vice Captains: Sarah Fairbairn and Gemma Parker

Health and Wellbeing Captains: Kirsty Russell and Darcy Ward

Equity and Inclusion Captain: Tanisha Sandford

House and Vice House Captains and Prefects will now be appointed.

Well done and thank you to everyone who applied, thank you to all who voted and congratulations to our Pupil Leadership Team! Please let the group know your ideas!



Our House Captains, Vice Captains and Prefects have also been appointed this week.

Kerse House: Captains - Jenna Rollo and Kaylee Paton, Vice Captains - Mia Crooks and Aneesa Mohammed

Logan House: Captains - Ruari Smith and Marcella McEvoy, Vice Captains - Kian O'Rourke and Elise Ward, Prefects - Sam Alexander and Rachel Bell

Milton House: Captains: Brooke Sharkey and Rachel Struthers, Vice Captains - Demi Slater and Emma Spence

(Photo to follow!)

Congratulations to all and thank you to everyone who voted.

New Colleagues

Mrs. Mullen (Principal Teacher of Maths and Numeracy), Mrs. Anderson (Teacher of Inclusion and Teacher of English), Mr. Kirkpatrick (Teacher of Physics and Science), Ms. Millar (Teacher of Art and Design), Ms. Montague (Teacher of History and Modern Studies), Mrs. Postma (School Support Assistant), Ms. Stewart (Teacher of Modern Languages), and Mrs. Watters (Teacher of Modern Languages) have joined our school. Mr. Kearney (Teacher of Business Studies) has joined us on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Our new colleagues in Modern Languages allow us to offer Spanish within the curriculum, in response to pupil requests, starting in S2 this session.

School Canteen

Reminder - the school canteen service is available from 8.20 am - 8.40 am, at morning intervals and lunch-times every day.

Toast (20p), hot filled rolls and bagels are available at breakfast time.

At morning interval there is a selection of cold filled rolls, paninis and other daily specials.

At lunch times there is a selection of 'grab and go' hot and cold filled snacks as well as the traditional hot meals.

Reminder - you can pre-order your meals using the mobile app. The mobile app can also be used to check what's on the menu each day.

Free water is available throughout the day.

Further information regarding the menu and Fusion App can be found at: [Canteen Menu](#)

Morning interval and lunch-times

All pupils must remain within the school grounds at morning interval.

Pupils can bring a packed lunch and interval snack with them in the morning if they wish to do so.

We also encourage all pupils to remain within the school grounds at lunch-times.

Hot food purchased out with the school can't be brought into the school.

Lateral Flow Testing





Lateral Flow home test kits can be collected from Mrs Maxwell and Mrs McCallum in the Street and Reception areas before the school day or from the Street Area at intervals and lunch-times. Further information can be found on the school website and at the links below.

[Lateral Flow Testing - Parent Letter](#)

[Lateral Flow Testing - Consent Form](#)

[Lateral Flow Testing - Privacy Statement](#)

Recommended testing days are Sundays and Wednesdays. Please upload your result to the Government website as soon as possible after you get your result.

The following letter from Professor Jason Leitch explains the latest updates for Parents and Carers and can be found on the school website at: [Letter from Professor Jason Leitch](#)

Progress Reports

S4 progress reports will be emailed to parents and carers on Wednesday, 22nd September.

S5 and S6 progress reports will be emailed to parents and carers by Thursday, 30th September.

If you have any questions about your report, please speak to your class teacher or your Pupil Support Teacher.

Meet your Digital Ambassadors



2 - David Wadsworth, Jae Gilmartin and Declan Goodwin

Our Ambassadors will be leading and supporting Digital Learning events throughout the year. They are also planning on running a lunch time coding club after the September weekend. If you have any problems with using Google classroom, Google drive or any other software that allows you to access Digital Learning, our Ambassadors are on standby to help. More information to follow.

Conversations in Comics

For S1 pupils...Conversations in Comics! Wednesday 29th September at lunchtime in the Library.



Participatory Budgeting

All members of our school community will be invited to share ideas and to vote on plans on how 5% of our Pupil Equity Funding money should be used. We look forward to hearing your ideas. Please speak to Mrs Smith and Mr Rae for more information and to share your ideas.

Computer Refresh

There will be no access to computers from Monday, 4th October until Thursday, 7th October 2021 as our computers are being upgraded.

'The Blues' and 'Bouncing Back' programmes

S4 pupils have had the opportunity to participate in ['The Blues'](#) programme, where they have learned about emotional resilience and considered strategies to reduce low mood and anxious thoughts. S2 pupils have had the chance to participate in the 'Bouncing Back' programme which also helps pupils to reflect on feelings and techniques to support mental health and emotional wellbeing. All workshops have been delivered by the Action for Children team. Workshops for S3 pupils are planned for later in the session.

Parent Council

Our first Parent Council meeting of the new session took place on Monday, 23rd August.

We would like to thank Mrs. Russell for all her hard work in previous sessions as Chairperson.

At the meeting, committee members for session 2021-22 were elected: Mrs. O'Rourke - Chairperson, Mrs. Wailes - Vice Chairperson, Mrs. Kelly - Secretary and Mrs. Hynd - Treasurer. Thank you to all parent and carers who attended the meeting.

The minutes of previous Parent Council meetings and dates of future meetings can be found on the Parent Council's page on our school website:

[Lesmahagow High School Parent Council](#)

New members are always welcome. Our next meeting takes place on Tuesday, 5th October.



3 - Prisms



4 - Drama blocks



5 - Drum kit

Thank you to our Parent Council and everyone who contributed to fundraising projects for our school last year. With your support, we were able to purchase prisms and weights to support learning and teaching in Science, copies of plays for the Drama department, mannequins for the Art Department, a drum kit for the Music Department and the Kirkmuirhill Men's Shed and Mr McGuigan made new Drama blocks for our Drama department.

Thank you to Cake Stuff for their generous donation to support the introduction of our Practical Cake Craft class. More information will follow in our next newsletter!

Uniform

Our pupils are looking very smart in their uniform each day. Further information about our uniform can be found at: [Lesmahagow High School Uniform](#)

We would like to remind everyone that we have a supply of pre-loved uniform items and winter clothing that are available from Mrs Smith, PT Equity and Inclusion, Pupil Support or Senior Management. A list of items that are currently available can be found at: [Uniform list](#). Thank you to everyone who has donated uniform items. All uniform items that are no longer required are gratefully received.

Home Economics, Hospitality and Practical Cake Craft

Our pupils have been developing their practical skills in Home Economics. S1 have been preparing fruit kebabs, S2 made carrot cakes, S3 made jam tarts and our Hospitality class baked Bakewell tarts. The photos show the beautiful cakes and biscuits baked by our Practical Cake Craft class.

Pupils are reminded to bring an apron and a container on Home Economics, Hospitality and Practical Cake Craft cooking days so that they can take what they have cooked home with them for everyone to enjoy.





Education Maintenance Allowance



If you stay on at school, you may be entitled to an Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) - a £30 weekly allowance. EMA provides financial support to help young people from low income households continue their education. Further information can be found at: [EMA](#)

School Holidays

School will be closed on Friday, 24th and Monday, 27th September 2021. The October holiday takes place from Monday, 11th to Friday, 15th October. All school holidays for this session can be found at: [South Lanarkshire School Holidays 2021-22](#)

Proposed school holidays for Session 2022-23 can be found at: [Proposed South Lanarkshire School Holidays 2022-23](#)

What's happening next week?

Friday 24th and Monday 27th September - September weekend holidays

Wednesday 29th September - Conversations in Comics - for S1 pupils, in the School Library

Thursday 30th September - S5 and S6 reports will be issued to parents and carers by this date.

Dates for your diary

Monday, 11th - Friday, 15th October - October holiday

Monday, 18th October - pupils return to school

Monday, 15th November - In-service day; school closed to pupils.

Wednesday, 22nd December - School closes at 2.30 pm for the Christmas holiday

Wednesday, 5th January 2022 - pupils return to school.

Contact us

School Office – 01555 896010

Email: office@lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk

Senior Leadership Team

Miss Barbara Lee (Acting Head Teacher) – gw07leebarbara@glow.sch.uk

Mr Alastair Gray (Depute Head Teacher) – gw14grayalastair@glow.sch.uk

Mr David Robertson (Depute Head Teacher) – gw10robertsondavid8@glow.sch.uk

Mrs Pamela Docherty (Acting Depute Head Teacher – Inclusion Support Team) – gw19dochertypamela@glow.sch.uk

Mrs Linda Wright (Acting Depute Head Teacher) – gw07wrightlinda5@glow.sch.uk

Pupil Support Team

Mr Jim Mallaghan (PT Pupil Support – Kerse House) – gw07mallaghanjames@glow.sch.uk

Mr Andrew Hill (Acting PT Pupil Support – Logan House) – gw09hillandrew4@glow.sch.uk

Mr Fergie Robson (PT Pupil Support – Milton House) – gw07robsonfergus@glow.sch.uk

Support for Learning Team

Mrs Hazel Laird (PT Support for Learning) – gw07lairdhazel2@glow.sch.uk