



CASTLEHEAD HIGH SCHOOL



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Head Teacher Weekly Update

Dear Pupils, Parent/Carer,

A warm welcome back to all parents, staff, and pupils, and especially to our new S1. After the six-week holiday period it was fantastic to see our school busy again. We have had a great first week back and I am delighted to report that everyone has settled into the routine of high school. S2-S6 have continued their learning with timetables and classes, and S1 have coped brilliantly navigating about the school with the help of our brilliant S6 befrienders. Everyone looks smart in their school uniform, and I would like to thank parents for your ongoing support of the school in this regard.

For the benefit of new parents to our school community, each week I will endeavour to give you an update on school life, along with items of news that you need to know about.

On Monday the teaching and support staff returned to two days in-service, where the focus was on our new Nurturing Relationships Policy and Teaching and Learning. Our pupils returned on Wednesday and as I previously mentioned, it was fantastic to have them all back in school.

I had the privilege of speaking to every pupil on Wednesday during assemblies and setting out the high expectations that we have here at Castlehead. I focussed on the importance of working hard, setting targets and being kind to every member of our school community. These assemblies also gave me the opportunity to launch our new school vision and values with our pupils. From April to June, we conducted a full consultation with pupils, staff, parents, and partners to determine the new shared vision and values for our Castlehead High School community. A school vision and values should be at the core of our school community. Please see our new vision and values below:

New School Vision

Cultivating a community of respect, equity, and kindness, fuelling ambitious minds to thrive and make a positive impact in our world.

New School Values



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Ambition Respect Kindness

Over the course of the coming weeks and months, pupils will have a greater understanding of these and the role they play in ensuring that our school community continues to improve.

This week we welcomed several new members of teaching staff to the school. This includes permanent, temporary, and newly qualified teachers. Please see below the list of staff who have joined us:

Miss Murray	English	Miss Feeney	Modern Languages
Miss McCarter	Humanities	Mrs Wallace	DHT (Oakshaw)
Mrs Molto Martin	Science	Miss MacKenzie	PE
Miss Robertson	Music	Mr Armstrong	Technical
Miss Marshall	PE	Mr Tarnawsky	Home Economics
Mrs Begg	PT Pupil Support (Oakshaw)	Miss Arbuthnott	Business
Miss Smith	PT Music & HE	Miss Scott	Maths
Mr Lochhead	PE		

We welcome the new staff into the Castlehead family.

This week, Mr Dunlop has been working with senior pupils renegotiating courses following the SQA results. Most of the pupils now have their timetables sorted. If there are any remaining issues, pupils should see Mr Dunlop as soon as possible.

At Castlehead High School we are a nut aware school. We currently have pupils that attend with severe nut allergies and any products that contain nuts or traces of nuts should not be brought onto the school grounds or into the school building in any circumstances. I highlighted this earlier in the week with pupils but would ask that parents and carers highlight this to their young people and reiterate this key message.



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Our new S1 pupils have been given their SatchelOne logins today and have set up their app in class. In their bag is a QR code for parents/carers to do the same so that you can track and monitor your child's homework and behaviour in school.

From Monday, all staff will be awarding House points in line with our new Relationships Policy which can be found on our website. I have also attached a link to the parents' guide to SatchelOne for your information.

<https://help.satchelone.com/en/articles/3191139-common-questions-for-parents>

Pupils in S2-6 will already have received their SatchelOne log in information, but in case there have been any issues over the course of the summer, this will be addressed next week in their PSHE lessons.

Finally, extra-curricular activities are an important part of school life. Over the coming weeks, we will be promoting the wide range of lunchtime and after school clubs available to our pupils. Mr Dunlop, DHT, will be gathering information from staff, and I will update you once this has all been finalised. Extra-curricular activities play an important part in the experience our pupils at Castlehead have, and I would urge parents and carers to encourage their child to participate in as many of our clubs as possible.

I hope that everyone has a restful weekend.

With very best wishes to you and your family,

Gordon Menzies
Head Teacher



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