



WICK HIGH SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1910

NEWSLETTER: NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2018

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Senior Tracking
- Chromebook Rollout
- Prelim Examination Dates
- WW1 Book & Film Projects
- Mrs Macbeath's Retirement
- Art Department Exhibition
- Parental Survey Feedback

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- 18th December: S1-3 Dance
- 20th December: S4-6 Dance
- 21st December—4th January: Christmas Holiday
- 16th January—1st February: SQA Prelim Examinations

PARENTAL SURVEY FEEDBACK

Earlier this year we asked for your feedback as parents and guardians on our school. We created an online survey using the questions that would be asked by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIe) to gauge, on a national standard, where our school's strengths and areas for development are.

A sizeable number of responders to the survey felt that the school was doing a good job of ensuring that their child was making good progress at school with 73% of them either strongly agreeing or agreeing that this was the case. Positive results were also given to the statements of "I feel my child is safe at school" (75% agreeing or strongly agreeing) and "Staff treat my child fairly and with respect" (74% agreeing or strongly agreeing).

The survey also highlighted to us that a number of parents (47%) would appreciate more opportunities to learn with their child and would like more advice on how to help their child learn at home (25%). Parents also expressed a desire to be more engaged with the school's Parent Council with 18% stating that they would like to be more informed about the work that the Parent Council is engaged in while 12% felt that they were not encouraged to participate in the group. It is the intention of the school's Senior Management Team to take these points to the Parent Council AGM on Monday 3rd December.

75% - Agreed "My child is safe at Wick High School"

74% - Agreed "My child is treated fairly and with respect"

73% - Agreed "My child is making good progress"

PUPILS' ARTWORK ON DISPLAY

The talented pupils of our Art & Design Department will soon have their work showcased in an exhibition to be held in Wick's St Fergus Gallery. The exhibition will contain work from all ages of our pupils ranging from S1 to those students who have recently completed their Advanced Higher qualification in the subject. Mr Ross, Faculty Head, and his staff were delighted to receive the support of the school's Parent Council in this event which will run from 30th November to 22nd December. Please go along to see the wonderful work our pupils are producing in school.



CHROMEBOOKS

Last week we received delivery of nearly seven hundred Chromebooks ready for distribution to each pupil in our school.

Very soon parents will receive four documents; a parental letter; a device agreement; a replacement device policy document and a hints and tips guide. The agreement letter should be signed and returned to the school office. Once complete your child will receive their Chromebook which they can then take home. We also require that each pupil has a suitable school bag to carry their Chromebook to and from school.



All pupils will be given information on the roll out during assemblies held the week beginning 26th November and all docu-

SENIOR TRACKING & PRELIM SQA EXAMINATIONS

After a busy week of assessments for Senior classes, pupils will soon receive tracking reports informing them of their current progress and grades in subjects. These will be issued to pupils to take home so parents/guardians can be kept informed. Based on this information, Year Heads and Guidance staff may be in contact to discuss any concerns that they may have.

January (16th to 1st February) will also see the start of SQA prelim examinations for S4-6 pupils. Please check our website for regular updates to the timetable as it is released as well as subject pages for revision and study resources as they become available.

Looking towards the final exam diet in the summer for those wishing to make an early start to their preparations please be reminded that the 2019 SQA timetable is available now on the SQA website.

WORLD WAR 1 BOOK & FILM PROJECT

Pupils from our History Department have been praised in the national press recently due to their work on *They Never Returned*, a book detailing the lives of 276 Wick men who perished in World War 1.

The book is on sale for £10 from the school office and will also be on sale at a screening of Peter Jackson's film *They Shall Not Grow Old* in our school hall on Tuesday 4th December at 7.30pm. This film has a particular reference to Wick



High School as two of our senior pupils, Jack Robertson and Aonghas Mhor, recently attended the Youth Premiere of the film in London, meeting Jackson himself (pictured), after senior pupils worked on short films with members of Jack-

MRS MACBEATH'S RETIREMENT

This week sees the retirement of one of Wick High School's longest serving members of staff, Mrs Anne Macbeath. A former pupil of Wick High School, Mrs Macbeath began her teaching career in 1975 as a member of the school's Home Economics Department. She later became a highly valued member of the school's Guidance Department as well as a Faculty Head of PE, Home Economics and Music before being promoted to the Senior Management Team of the school as a Depute Rector in 2009.

Mrs Macbeath's outstanding contribution to this school will be celebrated at a retirement dinner dance next month. We would all like to take this opportunity to thank her for all that she has done for Wick High School over decades of committed



MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM US ALL AT WICK HIGH SCHOOL

