



CASTLEHEAD HIGH SCHOOL



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Head Teacher Update

Dear Pupils, Parent/Carer,

With 4 weeks of the SQA exam firmly behind us, the end is in sight for some of our senior pupils. Many have already completed their suite of exams and it is time to relax. This week saw our pupils sitting French, Business Management, Physics, and Modern Studies. Next week some of our pupils will sit the exams for Practical Cookery, Computing Science and Art & Design. Good luck, the end is in sight!

I will start this week with a huge congratulations to Artur Iskenderov. Last weekend, Artur competed at the British Junior Wrestling Championships and performed so well that he won the silver medal. Junior competitions at this level are Under 21 and Artur was only narrowly beaten in the final by a much older athlete. This is an exceptional achievement. Artur only joined us in October from the Ukraine and has become a much-valued member of our school community. Outstanding achievement from a fabulous pupil.



With the success of Creativity Week last week, it was on to more work with Glasgow School of Art with some of our S1 pupils visiting the Art School on Thursday and Friday this week. Next Monday and Tuesday, some of our S2 pupils will have the opportunity to work at this world-renowned





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venue and experience working with the lectures and students. We look forward to photos of the visit.

Yesterday, Mrs McGeoch and some staff took a group of our pupils to the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum. This trip offered our pupils the opportunity to not only take in the gallery experience, but also spark their creative imaginations and work on their fine art skills. See below some of the photos:



Following the great success from last week, on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th June 2023, we will again welcome the charity 'Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY)' into school to offer cardiac screening programme for people aged 14-35 years old.

CRY's mission is to identify those that are at risk from sudden cardiac death. Sudden death syndrome is an umbrella term for the many different causes of young sudden cardiac death. At a screening, all individuals will receive an electrocardiogram (ECG) that examines the electrical





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activity of the heart, and if required, an echocardiogram, as well as a physical examination. The ECG is a simple, non-invasive, and painless test that will only take a few minutes to complete and is performed by qualified cardiac physiologists. The uptake for this last week was excellent, and we would love for any pupil, parent, or family member to benefit from this wonderful opportunity. For more information, please click the link below or check the posts on the school website to book in:

<https://www.castleheadhigh.com/2023/05/16/cardiac-risk-in-the-young/>

Earlier today, we sent out a request by text message to all parents regarding consultation on our School Improvement Plan priorities for next session. As part of our ongoing process, we would like to engage with parents/carers to identify specific improvement areas that will guide our improvement journey next session. Thanks to all the parents/carers who have taken time to complete the short survey. If you have not had the chance, we would be delighted if you could complete the link below:

<https://www.castleheadhigh.com/2023/05/19/school-improvement-plan-parent-carer-consultation/>

Our Duke of Edinburgh pupils have been spending a lot of time in their tents and completing practice and assessed expeditions over the last few weeks. There are more to come. Please see some photos so far of the groups out on expedition:





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Finally, today we had some visitors from Hewlett Packard Enterprise in Erskine into school. As part of their day of service, they came into school to help with clearing the courtyard area, painting the benches and planters, and supporting our school community. These fabulous people, one of which is a former pupil, in the picture below are helping us bring a fresh look to some of our outdoor areas. They worked so hard, and we are thankful for their time and effort. More volunteers will be back in June to help paint the handrails from the car park up to the school. If there are any parents/carers/family members who have access to tree bark to enhance the outdoor areas within our school, please contact the school office as we continue to try and enhance the outdoor space for our pupils.





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Please see the key dates for this term below:

Friday 26th May – Tuesday 30th May: The school will be closed for the holiday weekend and in-service day. S1-3 pupils will return on Wednesday 31st May.

Thursday 1st June: Pupils in S4 and S5 return to school following the SQA exam diet to take part in our two-day senior induction programme.

Thursday 1st June: Awards Ceremony.

Monday 5th June: New Timetable. Pupils will move onto their new timetable.

I hope you have a relaxing weekend and the nice weather that we are experiencing continues. We look forward to welcoming the young people back to school on Monday morning at 8.50am.

With very best wishes to you and your family,

Gordon Menzies
Head Teacher

