



EYEMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL | PARENT BULLETIN

2ND OCTOBER | 2020 |

The Longest Term...Ever!

This will be the last Newsletter before our October break (which includes in the Eyemouth cluster Monday 19th October as well) so I'd like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their huge efforts this term. Many of our staff were also involved in providing Childcare hubs for key workers and vulnerable children in the Summer, so this break will be much needed. Our young people have been nothing short of magnificent – taking on board all their responsibilities for keeping safe around school with good humour and a can do attitude. We've been busy both catching up and tackling new learning, using new technology and doing our best. A special shout out to the S1s who joined us without any of our normal transition work – they have done so well! I'm reminded that our school values have seen us through this difficult time, and will continue to guide us in the future.



Our Duke of Edinburgh students have done us proud by completing 917 hours of skill development, 917 hours of physical activity, and 1063 hours of volunteering, the social value of which is £4,624.05! Well done everyone involved and great commitment shown.

Our School Values

Respect
and
Kindness

Learning

Commitment



New staff slot – Mr MacKenzie, English



I joined EyHS in August after brief placements at Berwickshire and Selkirk High Schools. I have found all of the pupils and staff at the school incredibly welcoming and it feels fantastic to be joining such a positive environment where everybody seems to relish the opportunity to learn. I'm not originally from the borders as I grew up firstly in Wimbledon and then in Sunderland. However, my father is from Edinburgh and my mother's family are from the Borders. I live in Kelso with my young family and have been there for twelve years. Prior to coming into teaching, I studied at Edinburgh University where I completed a degree in Scottish Literature and Scottish History, specialising in Enlightenment period book culture and medieval Scottish manuscripts.

I have had various jobs before coming into teaching including roles in management teams in hospitality, sales and retail. I have also worked as a professional actor with roles in many productions including the R.S.C. and some short films. Over the last few years I have also worked as a Toastmaster which has led to many opportunities in public speaking and compare work at large events!

I'm really looking forward to getting to know more young people at the school when things turn to pre-COVID normality and hope to build many positive relationships. Although I must say, I have been incredibly impressed with how all of the EyHS pupils have coped since returning to school, which is down to their positivity and excellent attitude.



▶ We are celebrating World Mental Health Day on **Friday 9th October** by wearing something yellow. This is part of the #HelloYellow campaign by YoungMinds, a mental health charity focusing on supporting young people. Any pupil taking part is asked to make a donation via Parent Pay of £1. We are hoping to raise as much money as we can and increase mental health awareness in the school. We will be setting a mental health challenge in registration for pupils to complete as well focusing on kindness.



▶ The Eyeread project is now underway! We want to work with parents and carers to ensure all of our S1 and S2 young people are reading for pleasure every single day. S1 and S2 students have now selected a book and should begin recording their daily reading on the digital reading record stored on their iPad. They will be given some opportunities to read when in school but you can play a vital role by ensuring that they read at home every day too.

▶ All of our S1 and S2 young people now have access to Accelerated Reader to help them with their reading. This is a web based computer programme which helps them to choose books at just the right level of challenge. Once they have read a book, they can quiz on Accelerated Reader and begin accruing points towards an individual target.

Your young person will be bringing home a letter which has details of Accelerated Reader Homeconnect. This is a site which allows you to view your child's progress towards their reading target on Accelerated Reader. The letter will outline how to access Homeconnect and contains a unique login for you. For ease of access, the link to our Homeconnect site can be found under students/library on our school website.

For more information about Eyeread and Accelerated Reader, please see the library section of our School website.

"You can find lots of information about the school on our School webpages"

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