



ST MUNGO'S UPDATE: 1

Weekly Update to Parents/Carers during the School Closure



MESSAGE FROM MR PHEE, HEADTEACHER

I hope you and your family are keeping well,

This has been the most unusual start to a January term! Normally we would be in the middle of mid-terms exams, writing reports, celebrating the Feast Day of St Mungo as well as the hustle and bustle of 1200 excited pupils returning to meet up with friends and share stories about what they did over the Christmas holidays. What we have had this year is a few extra days holiday for pupils and when the new term did eventually start we had 1200 pupils working from home struggling to embark with online learning because of Microsoft TEAMS issues which affected the whole of Europe.

At the moment we do not know how long lockdown will last but teachers will continue to lead learning and we will do everything we can to support your child/ren. Some normal school business continues such as course choice, destination support for leavers, planning for next year's staffing and timetable. Things are different at the moment, stressful even, but we are working away to ensure that pupils are not only safe but that school life is as normal as possible. We will continue wellbeing check-ins next week to support pupils, but please let us know if you require any further support.

I would also encourage you to follow the school's main Twitter feed - @StMungosFalkirk, where all up to date information will be posted along with links to relevant resources and emerging advice.

Stephen Phee, Head Teacher



DIGITAL POSTBOX: w.b. 18 January 2021



The following communication was/will be sent to pupils and/or parents/carers.

Friday 15 January - S3 course choice letter sent home
Wednesday 20 January - Leaver's: Next step info sheet

Quick
Links



Twitter



Email (scroll down)



Website

COMMUNICATION: PASTORAL STAFF & YEAR HEADS

Pastoral staff are continuing with their 1:1 wellbeing chats with pupils across all year groups. Year Heads sent stage appropriate letters last week and they will be in touch again over the next few weeks relating to year group priorities. Contact details for Pastoral staff and Year Heads are included as an attachment to this newsletter and is also available on the school website.

COURSE CHOICE - Third Year

The S3 course choice process begins on **Tuesday 19 January** and pupils have been preparing for this through PSE lessons, which are continuing online.

Advice, support notes and a link to the course choice sheet (via Microsoft FORMS) will be posted on all S3 PSE TEAMS and will be available on the school website from Tuesday.

Pupils are asked to complete the course choice form by **Tuesday 26 January**.

Information regarding the process and key contacts was sent out to all S3 parents/carers from Miss Kane on **Friday 15 January**.

SUBJECT ROTATION - First and Second Year

From today, Monday 18 January, pupils in S1 and S2 will change rotation involving 4 subjects. **This means:**

- If studying Design Technology, pupils will now study Health & Food Technology
- If studying Art & Design, pupils will now study Music

Pupils will be automatically entered into the appropriate TEAM and should engage with their new subject/s from Monday.

COLLEGE ENGAGEMENT - Fourth, Fifth & Sixth Year

Forth Valley lecturers and staff have been in contact to tell us that seniors should connect with their lecturers online and complete any work that has been set. We would appreciate your support in encouraging your child to engage and/or contact their lecturer/s if there are any issues with completing work.

EMA and FREE MEALS - Falkirk Council

There is information on the school website about community groups and financial assistance to support families during the Lockdown.

- EMA (for students over 16 in low income families) - [click here](#)
- FREE MEALS & CLOTHING GRANT - [click here](#)



SUPPORTING ONLINE LEARNING



NEED RESOURCES?

If you require resources to support learning at home (jotters, paper, pens, colouring in pencils etc.) please contact Mr McKay on:
 stuart.mckay@falkirk.gov.uk
 and he will support you fully.

I.T. SUPPORT

Mr Penman and Mrs Rennie are available to offer IT advice. If pupils require support, please contact the relevant person below:
DEVICE - stuart.mckay@falkirk.gov.uk
TEAMS - gw16penmandaryl@glow.sch.uk
TEAMS - WLSherrie.Rennie@glow.sch.uk

CHRISTMAS LEAVER

If you left at Christmas and haven't told us yet, please complete the online leaver form by [clicking here](#). If you are undecided and would like more advice, please contact us the form or contact your Pastoral Head.

There are many support guides and documents on the school website

CLICK HERE TO BE TAKEN TO THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

UCAS

Miss Marshall will send an update to all S5 and S6 students who have applied for a university course through UCAS on Wednesday. Information will include a timeline and links to additional supports before making final decisions.

WELLBEING

The Pastoral Team have, and will continue to make wellbeing check-ins.
 Help sheets to support mental health and resilience of students and parents during lockdown are on the school website.
 Link below to access.

SQA (MISS JESS)

As we await further guidance from the Scottish Government, we are continuing to move forward with learning and teaching for all our courses, working on evidence which will be essential on the National Qualifications journey. For updates, refer to the SQA section on the school website or [click here](#).

CLICK HERE TO BE TAKEN TO THE WELLBEING SECTION OF THE WEBSITE

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Frazer Law, our Senior Technician has been working tirelessly behind the scenes developing the school closure section of the website, designed to become a 'one stop shop' of communication and support during this lockdown period. He will also be re-designing the school website over the next few months.

The website launch page will house resources designed to support and provide updates to pupils, parents and carers during this lockdown period.

Here is a summary of the main sections:

1. SCHOOL INFORMATION/LETTERS
2. FALKIRK COUNCIL ADVICE and SUPPORT
3. NATIONAL ADVICE and SUPPORT
4. SQA UPDATES
5. SUPPORTING ONLINE LEARNING AT HOME
6. LOCAL SUPPORT and NETWORKS
7. PUPIL SECTION
8. PARENT/CARER SECTION
9. CONTACT DETAILS: SCHOOL STAFF
10. WEBSITES TO SUPPORT FAMILY LEARNING
11. MICROSOFT TEAMS & I.T. SUPPORT
12. LEAVER FORM (ONLINE)
13. RESOURCES TO SUPPORT PUPILS WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

SUPPORTING ONLINE LEARNING

This is a challenging time for everyone - Subject and whole school supports include:

SUBJECT TEACHER

WELLBEING CHECK-IN WITH PASTORAL STAFF

PUPIL SUPPORT CHECK- IN

SCHOLAR and SQA RESOURCES

BBC SCOTLAND: LOCKDOWN RESOURCES

E-SGOIL - NATIONAL RESOURCE SITE

PLANNING TOOLS/RESOURCES ON WEBSITE

WELLBEING SECTION ON WEBSITE

Further details/links are on the website.