

31st March 2015

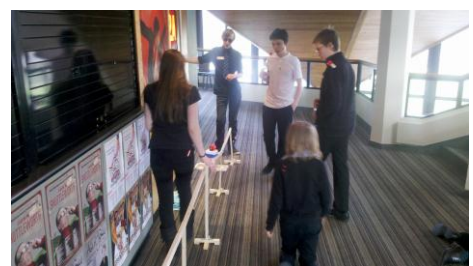
Dear Parents / Carers

Another term gone ... they really do seem to fly past and this has been a particularly busy one.

The BGE Course choices for next year's S3 & S4 have now all been returned and Ms Clark and I are currently working on these to get a timetable up and running for June. Given the changes in education in Scotland, it has been a long time in the planning but early indications are that individual 'clashes' of subjects for almost every pupil should be successfully sorted out whilst the Senior Phase is progressing quite smoothly and should be operational on time. A big thank you is due to everyone involved in the planning of these developments within the school and to parents and pupils who gave us suggestions for improvement.

Thanks are also due to staff and pupils in the senior school who have worked really hard this term in preparation for their examinations in May. Units, folios, homework and prelims have had to be completed but the hard work entailed gives rise to the confidence that our pupils will do the best they can in May. A lot of effort has been expended but its importance cannot be overstated and, even over Easter, there is a chance to do more last minute revision by attending the Study Days - details can be found on the website (www.ullapoolhigh.highland.sch.uk).

The Spring Exhibition and Concert held last week in school was a fantastic opportunity to see all the talent which Ullapool High School has to offer and our congratulations go to Ms Strachan, Ms Grant and Ms Morley for organising such an uplifting evening. The artworks on display and the performances on the night were tremendous and allowed the students to show off all their hard work in preparation for their Art and Music exams. The school Twitter feed (@UllapoolHS) is regularly updated with details of events and achievements – for example, this term alone we have had Fairtrade Fortnight, Abernethy Ski Trip, Red Nose Day, dance workshops (courtesy of Ullapool Dance Ltd), Highland Foodbank collection, Young Engineer wave power trials, safer internet day, a duck race and much more.



Our sports teams have also been very active as usual and our thanks go to Mr Lees and Ms Bradley for all the organising and arranging necessary to provide these opportunities. Next month also sees the launch of another Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition season which entails a major effort from pupils, parents and helpers, all superbly co-ordinated by Miss Middleton.

ITC DEVELOPMENTS

Highland Council has recently announced that all pupils with a GLOW account now have free access to download Microsoft Office 365 to their computer, laptop, tablet or phone, thereby offering the ability to sign in and sync their documents to Glow via cloud technology. Office 365 incorporates Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access. Pupils will be able to use their computers at home and safely work on documents etc. which can then be accessed at school or vice-versa. We hope that, as a school, we will start to fully utilise this facility in the near future but, in the meantime, pupils can use their GLOW account now and access these versions of the popular Microsoft Office range. Further details on how to download the program, using the tile in GLOW, can be found at this link

<https://glowhelp.wikis.glowscotland.org.uk/Microsoft+O365+Downloads?responseToken=98535b2a55f12b8e2bb2c2530efcd14f> .

SCHOOL MEALS – PRICE INCREASE

As from Monday, 20th April, the price of a school meal deal at Highland Council secondary schools will increase to £2.30. While food items can still be purchased individually, the meal deal incorporates a 2-course dinner plus bread and a drink which represents good value. A copy of the individual price list for the canteen can be obtained via the school office.

SQA EXAM REVISION

There are many handy revision tools and exam guides available from the SQA in preparation for the exams and links to these can be found on the school website.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS & MAY DAY

The school finishes for the Easter break on Thursday, 2nd April at the usual time and re-opens to both staff and pupils on **Monday, 20th April** at 9.00am. **Monday, 4th May** is a public holiday and the school will be closed on that day.

I would like to wish you all an enjoyable break.

Yours sincerely

Robbie McFedries

Head Teacher