

# ULLAPOOL HIGH SCHOOL



8<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parent/carer

Once again, we have reached the October break in what seems a blink of an eye. It has been a busy term but an enjoyable one. Whilst we are not quite back to 'normal', we have certainly been able to offer good learning in classes and opportunities outwith school as well. I hope we are helping young people come to terms with the past year and a half, and we will continue to have Health and Well-being to the forefront of our work.

We have had very few COVID positives within the school, so I would like to thank everyone for their vigilance around this. Staying off if unwell, and displaying classic symptoms remains the biggest help in stopping the spread of infection. Masks, hand cleaning, surface cleaning and ventilation are also said to help, and I'm pleased at how well we have done with this as a school. These measures look set to continue towards Christmas.

It looks likely that parents' evenings will continue online this term. This has been reasonably successful for those that did not have technical issues and is something we would like to offer in some form or another, perhaps as an option, even when we move to face to face being allowed. The parent council would be interested in ideas around this and their Facebook group is called Ullapool High School Parent Council, if you wish to join and contribute.

## STAFFING

We say goodbye to Craig Burry, who stepped in at the start of January, into the most difficult of circumstances (lockdown) and went on to cover the maternity Chemistry post for Katie Williams. Many thanks for your work Craig – unbelievable amount you took on – and the young people, as well as staff wish you all the very best.

Frances Fogg, PSA has also left us after 11 years' service. Frances brought a multitude of skills to this role, and made very good use of her creative talents. Once again staff and pupils wish you all the very best.

Congratulations to Andrew Inglis, who was successful in his appointment to Acting Depute (1.5 days) and also to Jo Stewart who will move up from Depute to head Teacher (1.5 days). As most of you already know this is because I commence phased retirement after the October break.

We have just appointed Julie Price-Grimshaw to the English teacher maternity post....many congratulations we look forward to working with her.

## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

S2 Inverlael Archaeological Dig

Bronze DofE Expedition, which takes place this coming weekend.



## 2021 SCHOOL DUX

In times past the School Assembly which we hold at the end of this term also includes the presentation of the Ullapool High School Dux trophy to the pupil or pupils who have achieved the best SQA exam results by the end of S5. As we were unable to accommodate this at present, we would like to pass on our congratulations to this year's Dux winners:

Step forward and take a bow

## ROWAN STRACHAN & ANIAS KROEGER

Worthy recipients of the School Dux trophy for their exceptional performance in the SQA exams, they also share **The Rev. John H. B. Macphail Award** which is presented on behalf of Wm. Alasdair B. Macphail of Achiltibuie, the Rev Macphail's son. This award takes the form of a book token each for £50.

Due to the outstanding performance of so many students in 2020/21 we also have the Proxime Accessit Award and £25 vouchers to be awarded for the first time since 2016.

We would like to congratulate both:

## CHAILEIN MACLEOD & ANDREW MACLEOD



Enjoy the upcoming holidays. We look forward to welcoming pupils back to school at the usual time on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> October ☺!

With best wishes

*Robbie McFedries*

Headteacher