



Portlethen Academy
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1st July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

END OF SESSION 2021-22

As we come to the end of a very busy school session, and my first session as Head Teacher, I would like to thank each and every pupil, colleague, and parent/carers for their continued support throughout the year.

It has been a very hectic time with the challenges of COVID19 and many other factors along the way; however, to see the progress we have made as a school and the many successes and achievements we have gathered has filled me with great pride.

Good News Stories / Successes and Achievements

To capture and share some of our Good News Stories from this session, please click on the links below:

- **Aberdeenshire Good News Stories:** <https://bit.ly/3yB5dGe>
(Portlethen Academy feature about half-way down)
- **Portlethen Academy Award Winners (2021-22):** [Award Winners 2021-22](#)
- **BCSO Round-Up** – please see attached document also. This is from Isla, our BCSO to share some of our successes on our Excelerate journey, in partnership with the Wood Foundation.

SQA Update / Appeals Process

Mrs Campbell-Robertson (Depute Head Teacher / SQA Co-ordinator) is writing to all Senior Phase parents and carers about the process for SQA Appeals. Like last year, this will involve some information gathering via a Microsoft Form in the first instance, and then further discussions.

Pupils will receive their much-anticipated SQA Results on Tuesday 9th August 2022, and we wish them all the very best. I am sure they will make us #ProudOfPorty!

Staffing Updates

As ever, we have a number of staffing changes at the end of this session with a mixture of colleagues retiring, and some leaving for pastures new.

Below is a list of our staffing updates in Faculties:



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Guidance – Mrs Angela Cowie (Downies) leaves us at the end of this session to move back down to Glasgow. She will be sorely missed by all. We have very recently appointed Mrs Ellen Leslie who will start with us towards the end of September 2022. Mrs Leslie is currently a Guidance Teacher within Aberdeenshire Council, and we look forward to her starting. For Downies pupils, we will have an Acting Guidance Teacher in post within the first few days of next session to support pupils from the start of term. Further details to follow.

Science – Mrs Ugbe (Chemistry) has successfully completed her Probationary Year and leaves us to commence a post in Inverurie Academy – we wish her all the best. Mr James Hill will be joining us in Biology from the start of next session. Miss Jewell has commenced her job-share post with Ms Hudgins as Faculty PT Science.

ICT – Mr Simpson (Faculty PT) leaves us at the end of this session to begin a new post as Lecturer in Data Science at NESCoL. We wish him all the best. Miss Clark will be Acting Faculty PT from the start of the session, and we will be interviewing for the full-time permanent post within the first few weeks.

Maths – Mr Brown leaves us to move back to the West Coast, and we thank him for all he has done over the last few years for Portlethen Academy.

Modern Languages – Ms Hunter and Mrs Campbell both retire at the end of this session, and we wish them well in their next adventures. Both have been so committed to the Modern Languages Faculty, and we thank them for all their hard work over the years. We have recently appointed April Shepherd and Daniel Gete to join us into the new session, and we welcome back Amelie Pointet from maternity leave.

Uniform – from Tuesday 23rd August 2022

As previously mentioned, we look forward to welcoming back all our Portlethen Academy pupils in their full uniform from the start of next session. We have given a pupil briefing on the details and will share this below for parents/carers.

Pupils will be back to wearing Uniform full-time and will change into PE Kit for PE lessons. The AFC class in S3 are permitted to wear uniform on a Thursday only, as they have a full day of this course.

For those who do not yet have a school tie, our School Office will be open on **Tuesday 16th – Thursday 18th August 2022** from **10am-12noon**, and **2-3pm** for anyone who wishes to purchase one. These are priced at £4.20 for both Junior and Senior and can be paid for with the correct cash or a cheque.



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Portlethen Academy Uniform Outline:

Expectations of All	Not Accepted
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tie – Junior (S1-3) – School Colours Senior (S4-6) – Black *Available from School Office for £4.20• White collar – shirt/polo shirt Plain black jumper, v-neck, cardigan if extra layer needed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black trousers, skirt, jeans• Black/dark trainers or shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leggings / Sports Wear• Jackets and hats/hoods (to be removed in school/workplace).• Bright / coloured trainers or shoes.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your families and excellent summer break.

Stay safe and enjoy time together.

On the first day back, we will be having Year Group assemblies in the Theatre, starting with the S1s. We look forward to seeing our pupils, including our New s1s, from Tuesday 23rd August 2022 for a great year ahead.

Yours sincerely

Barry Drennan
Head Teacher