



Earlston High School



Thursday 2 April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer/Colleague/Pupil

End of Term – Spring Newsletter

I have never had to write an end of term newsletter in such surreal and testing times. However one thing that is evident to me, as the Headteacher of EHS, is our community's ability to support one another. Our cluster hub is now up and running at Melrose Primary School – thank you to all our staff who have volunteered to staff the hub. I would also like to thank our staff who at pace have set up the EHS virtual school, and to our parents and pupils for your support at this time.

We want to hear from you...

As we move to an 'EHS virtual school' setting we would like to gather the most frequently asked questions from parents/carers. We will add the most common questions/answers to our FAQs to help support our learners and families. Please complete the following survey to help contribute towards this.

Please note that you won't receive a direct response to these questions.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKQU9FL1LKsNKgbmzCLa0tBRUQTdaNIIKTUg2VEE3SFIRNE0wWjZEN0U2Uy4u>

EHS Virtual School - Frequently asked questions

My child has too many assignments:

We feel that a routine is helpful to many of our pupils in the current circumstances; but we certainly don't want pupils to find school work an additional stress. If you have any specific concerns please contact your guidance teacher. Please keep safe, get some exercise and help others.

Where do I check for information?

All schoolwork is being organised through 'Show My Homework'. This is an online diary and planner for all students and parents. Essential information for parents will continue to come through groupcall from the school.



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I can't log in to Show My Homework?

All homework set in the school is visible to everyone - just go to the school website, click on the link and use the filters to find your class. Please contact the school via email if you are having issues with this.

My ipad isn't working properly

Please go to <https://www.earlstonhighschool.org.uk/category/schoolbag> for 'how to' and help guides.

Teams is going very slowly

It's best to use Teams in the morning before the USA comes online, and after Joe Wicks!

What's going to happen with excursions?

Work is continuing in the background regarding trips. The central team at SBC is considering the financial implications and working with insurers to investigate the current position. We appreciate your patience regarding this matter and will be in touch with further details as soon as possible.

What about Duke of Edinburgh's Award?

Ms Farnish has a comprehensive plan. She has sent out information to participants. Please also look at the DofE information in the School Bag section on our website.

What will happen after Easter?

We are planning for a virtual school timetable to run in the event of a longer shutdown.

What is happening with SQA exams?

SBC issued an update to parents and carers last week. When the SQA provide further guidance SBC will update you asap.



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Leavers – S4, S5 and S6

As your Headteacher, I want to make clear that last week is not how we will end your time with us.

The Senior Leadership Team is already thinking about how we might celebrate your time at EHS and mark your transition from EHS into the big wide world! Next term we will work with the Head Team to look at our options.

How do I contact the school? Where will I get information?

All official communications at this time are through Scottish Borders Council, please follow their updates at:

<https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/coronavirus>

As ever our school team is here to help. Please continue to email us at:

earlstonhs@scotborders.gov.uk

Finally...

Our new term will begin (virtually) on Monday 20 April 2020. Our staff are genuinely missing all of our pupils – we all hold on to the fact that our school will resume as normal in the fullness of time.

Please stay safe this Easter. Look after yourself and your loved ones.

Kindest regards,

Mr Justin Sinclair
Headteacher