



# Lornshill Academy

Update from the Year Heads



Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January

Respect

Integrity

Compassion

This week saw our students revert back to remote learning, meaning that Lornshill Academy has been a very quiet place. We have been hugely impressed by how well our young people continue to adapt to the frequently changing situation and their resilience throughout this whole time has been tremendous.

Throughout the rest of this lockdown period and whilst our school remains closed to the vast majority of our students, learning will continue to take place via Google Classrooms. Using this platform, staff will provide learning materials that our students should engage with over the course of the week. The materials provided will be varied but could consist of videos, website links, PowerPoints and other text based resources. In some cases, live lessons may be arranged but where these will happen, this will be communicated via the Google Classroom page. Please see the learning grids that are issued on a weekly basis to get an overview of what each year group will be working through each week.

Even during this first week, it has been great to hear from staff that engagement levels have been high and we have seen some fantastic examples of student work being produced. It's also been great to see a few students try out Miss Murray's baking recipes at home. If you haven't tried this yet then it's certainly something worth doing.

We were delighted to welcome Miss Gillon to the team after the Christmas break. She joins the Social Subjects team on a temporary basis and will be delivering classes in both History and Modern Studies. Ms Law joins our Enterprise faculty very soon as Principal Teacher of Home Economics and we are looking forward to her arrival.

Our final staffing changes come over in PE as we say farewell to Mr Harkness and Mr Leslie who have both moved onto promoted positions in other schools. We are excited about the arrivals of Mr Harvey and Mr Manuel who will be replacing them.

In terms of communications throughout this time, all essential messages will be Groupcalled directly to families. Our School App will be used to send updates such as this one whilst our social media accounts on Twitter and Facebook will continue to show an insight into the day-to-day life of our school. Our current school website hosts important information such as the previously mentioned Learning Grids

and information that is of use during this period will be put into the January 2021 section of the page titled "Resources".

We were extremely saddened to learn about the passing of one of our S6 students during the festive break.

Calum was a fantastic student and a pleasure to teach. He had a fantastic sense of humour and always happy to stop for a chat and was highly regarded by everyone who knew him. Calum excelled in Creative Arts and would spend the majority of time studying in this area of the school where last year he achieved Highers in both Music and Art. Calum performed the part of Mrs Luce in the school production of Little Shop of Horrors at Alloa Town Hall and performed a solo part of The Meek Shall Inherit.

During his illness Calum did not share his situation with many people but in his passing his family would like to celebrate his life. His funeral will take place on Tuesday 19th January. He will leave the family home in Branshill at 12:15pm and make his way down to Sauchie Resource Centre where he will stop for one last time before heading to the Coop Funeral parlour for a private service at 12:30pm. He will then leave the parlour at 12:50pm and up to Sunnyside Cemetery where Diane Goldberg will conduct a celebration of his life. If you would like to pay your respects then please line the route, bearing in mind current restrictions around social distancing.



There cannot be a collection at the service but the family would like to raise some money for the charity CHAS who have supported Calum and his family during such a difficult time. If you would like to and can then please donate through the following link <https://www.facebook.com/supportCHAS/> Please note that you do not need Facebook to make a donation through this page.

This continues to be an unusual time in Scottish education and we appreciate that many families are facing a challenging time. Please continue to make contact should there be anything that we can help with.

Kind regards and stay safe,

The Year Heads