

1 June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find below an update on some matters that are pertinent to pupils in: new S5, new S6, school leavers and pupils who have just completed S6 this session.

### **Change of timetable**

#### New S5 students

Welcome to S5! We are very much looking forward to working with you in your new role as a senior school student within Calderside Academy. By now you will have received your timetable, this should reflect the option choices you made earlier in the session. As is the norm no changes are made to course choices until the SQA examination results have been released in August. We will be in touch in due course to update you on the approach to changing courses in the light of your exam results. Please ensure that you endeavour to focus on your studies, as suggested, in the sample timetables provided in the change of timetable letter issued last week. If you find that you have not received a timetable, you should email the school office at [office@calderside.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:office@calderside.s-lanark.sch.uk), marking this for the attention of your Pupil Support teacher, and we will be in touch to discuss any particular issue. Otherwise you follow your timetable until the end of June.

#### New S6 students

Welcome to S6! You are now entering the final year of your school education. We anticipate that there will be a number of opportunities that you will still be able to opt into as you progress through S6. We would normally have a special S6 assembly during the month of June to remind you of what to expect. However, we will review our approach and certainly be back in touch in August regarding such matters.

You should have received your timetable, which will reflect the option choices you made earlier in the session. As you would have experienced in S5, the same applies this year, in that no option choices are amended until you have received your SQA exam results in August. If it has been agreed that an Advanced Higher course can run, this has been timetabled for the month of June. This however, will be reviewed again in August in order to determine the viability of the course continuing. Where there were not sufficient numbers to run an Advanced Higher course, this has not been timetabled, this scenario will also be revisited when SQA results are available. If this applies to you then your timetable will revert to the subjects you selected at the start of the year. If you have not received a timetable you should contact the school office at [office@calderside.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:office@calderside.s-lanark.sch.uk), marking this for the attention of your Pupil Support teacher, we would then follow this up with you.

Application forms for the following Senior School Leadership team posts are now available from the school website:

- School captains (2 positions available)
- House Captains (2 positions available per House)
- Prefects (notionally 5 positions per class).

There are 2 application forms: one for School Captain and one for House Captain/Prefect. There is also a Job Profile to accompany each post, you should read this prior to completing your application form(s).

A few points of note in relation to completing the application form and recruitment process:

- previous attendance and timekeeping, as is the norm, will have an impact upon you being successful in being appointed and/or called for interview.
- in the interests of equity the form has not to be extended in length, if you do extend the length your application will not be considered.
- you can apply for more than one post, for example, applying for School Captain as well as House Captain. This would be sensible given that we only have 2 School Captain posts available.
- not all pupils are successful, keep this in mind and ensure that your application is completed well, in detail and that you answer the questions honestly and meaningfully.
- completed application forms are to be returned to [office@calderside.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:office@calderside.s-lanark.sch.uk). In the subject heading state your name and what you are applying for eg. D Osprey, School Captain application form.
- if you are submitting 2 applications, submit 2 emails, with the appropriate attachments, as noted above.
- the closing date for applications is **Friday 12 June**.
- normally Mr Dodds and Mrs Osprey interview for the posts of School Captain, Pupil Support staff interview for the posts of House Captain. We will review our approach to the recruitment process when we have more details regarding our model of returning to school for next session.
- although the closing date for applications is the 12 June, it will be in August that we will update you on our approach to appointing these posts for the new session. This may well differ from our normal processes.

## **EMA**

We have been advised by SLC that EMA payments will continue for the month of June. This is normal. However, for this session, pupils who have just completed S6 will also continue to receive EMA payments until the end of the 2019/20 school session.

## **School Leavers**

A number of you will now be leaving school. Some pupils in 'old S4' and 'old S5', this is in addition to all of our 'old S6 pupils'. If you are a school leaver and you have not contacted the school it is important that you do so. We would ask that you email our school office at [office@calderside.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:office@calderside.s-lanark.sch.uk) and provide the following details:

your name, registration class, leaving destination, resources you have to return to school eg. English books (if you do have school materials, we will be back in touch in due course to provide details as to how these are to be returned to us.

In terms of your leavers destination the school would ask that you provide as much detail as possible. For example, if moving onto college or university we would like to

know the name of the college/university and the title of the course you are moving on to study. If entering employment or training, again we would ask that you let us know the name of the employer/training provider and the job/training title.

Our school SDS Careers Advisers are available should you feel that you require their support to move onto your post school destination. Their contact details are as follows:

[lorraine.blair@sds.co.uk](mailto:lorraine.blair@sds.co.uk) or 07884454559  
[carol.douglas@sds.co.uk](mailto:carol.douglas@sds.co.uk) or 07824 865782  
[roberta.mackenzie@sds.co.uk](mailto:roberta.mackenzie@sds.co.uk) or 07884463048.

SDS are hosting a School Leavers Webinar on Tuesday 2 June at 3 pm. If interested in viewing this please see the document on the school website entitled 'SDS School Leavers Webinar, 2 June 2020'. This provides details of how to access this event.

Ordinarily we take the time in June to wish you well and complete leaving formalities. It is very disappointing that we will not be able to do so this month. It is always a lovely conversation to have with a pupil to chat about fond school memories as well as wish pupils much success as they move on from school. We are also all too aware how difficult the end of this session has been in particular for our S6 leavers, whereby many of our normal 'leaving school' celebrations did not take place. This has been extremely difficult for you and you have been in the thoughts of all school staff. However, in the meantime we wish you much success in all that you do, we are still available to assist you in whatever way we can. Please do not hesitate to contact us if the need arises. We are looking forward to seeing and speaking to you when it is safe to do so. We hope that you will visit the school in future months when it will be lovely to see you all again.

### **School Prom**

It is extremely disappointing that the school prom for this academic session has been cancelled. We have considered rescheduling the event, however, after considering a number of factors applicable to the next school session it has been decided that unfortunately the prom will not take place. We appreciate the level of disappointment this has caused for pupils during the month of March. The school are extremely grateful to the School Captains, Depute School Captain and House Captains for their support and leadership throughout the year in working towards this event. Deposit payments were taken earlier this session, these were non-refundable. However, the school are reimbursing these payments. Cheques will be sent out to those who made a payment(s), you will receive these during the month of June.

### **SQA**

SQA examination results will be released on Tuesday 4 August. We will be in touch to update on the format for any subject changes in the light of SQA results achieved. In the meantime, please ensure that your child has signed up for **MySQA**. Signing up via this portal will ensure that results are received, via text and/or email from 8 am on the morning of Tuesday 4 August. Candidates will still receive a paper certificate through the post, MySQA is an additional service to opt into. The service also allows

personal details, such as address and name spelling to be checked. Please note the deadline to sign up for this service is 15 July. You can access the service via the following link:

[https://www.mysqa.org.uk/cs8/content/secure/my\\_homepage.jsp](https://www.mysqa.org.uk/cs8/content/secure/my_homepage.jsp)

Those of you who are entering either S5 or S6 we very much look forward to working with you in senior school over the next school session. We will again be in touch to update on senior school matters as appropriate.

Can we again wish our school leavers much success in your future endeavours and note that we look forward to speaking to you again some time in the not too distant future.

Diane Osprey  
DHT (S5/6)

Skayne Dodds  
Head Teacher