Committed to Care and Excellence

Gracemount High School

Lasswade Road, Edinburgh, EH16 6TZ
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Tel: 0131 664 7440
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Head Teacher
Mr Ross Hunter

Depute Head Teacher
Mrs Dee Scott
Mr Mark Gregor (Acting)
Mr Lewis Whale

Business Manager
Mrs Anne O'Neil

5 June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our tenth and final Head Teacher update of this session.

Our new timetable has started and most of our coursing issues have been resolved. We will be in touch early next session to support pupils who need to re-course, considering exam results and dates for re-coursing will be shared before the end of term. We are working hard to prepare for our Primary 7 transition days, Sports Day and our annual Celebration Evening. See key dates below.

We are finalising our School Improvement Plan for next session along with our Standards and Quality report. Both will go onto our school website, and we will share the links with you.

Recruitment details are shared below however I am looking for a parent representative to join our recruitment panel for the Depute Head teacher interviews. If you would like to be involved, please get in touch with me by email at ross.hunter@gracemount.edin.sch.uk or by calling the school. Dates for the interviews are **Wednesday 14th and Monday 19th June**.

Please remember that as well as supporting your child, the school is here to support our parents and carers too. Please click here to access the support for families web page from Edinburgh City Council. We also have a "Family Supports" page on our own website which you can access here.

I hope you find the information below relevant and useful. If you want to contact the school for any reason, please call the school office on **0131 664 7440** or email GRA-Admin Account Admin@Gracemount.edin.sch.uk. Our school website link is here and is an excellent way to keep up to date with events in the school.

Title	Details
Parent Council	**We need your help.** We are very keen to recruit new members into our Parent Council. It is vital that we have an active and functioning parent council. We meet up to 5 times over a school year, normally in person at 6pm on agreed dates in the school library. Please consider joining and feel free to contact me to discuss any aspect of this at ross.hunter@gracemount.edin.sch.uk. Our next meeting is **Monday 12 June at 6pm in the school library**. We would love to see you in person.
Staffing update	It has been a very busy time with recruitment of new staff. I'm delighted to say that to date we have appointed the following staff: 1. Physics – Ailsa Irving 2. Modern Studies – Iona Alexander 3. Art – Hannah Noble 4. Art – Lucy Hanna 5. Business – Lindsay McLean 6. Chemistry – Craig Douglas 7. Maths – Tess Higgins

	8. English Probationer – Emma Hamilton 9. Biology Probationer – Yaakov Sobev We are currently still recruiting for: 1. Depute Head Teacher **(see note above for parent rep)** 2. Curriculum Leader - Support for Learning 3. Art Teacher 4. Maths Teacher 5. Curriculum Leader – Science 6. Pupil Support leader – 1 Year temporary 7. PSO 8. PSA
Tiree House	Mrs Joanna Knight has returned on a phased return.
Mobile Phone Policy	This continues to work very well, ensuring a more positive learning environment in our school. Pupils and parents are reminded that if pupils access their phone during class time without permission it is removed and kept in the school office for the remainder of the day. Parents will be informed if this happens. A reminder not to call your child during the school day when they are in class. Please contact the office if a matter is urgent.
School Dress Code	I will be writing to you this week or next with important updates for August.
Attendance and late coming	Attending school regularly is critical to the success of a young person at school. We want to do all we can to support all our families with this. If you are worried about your child's attendance and want to discuss how the school can support you and your child, please contact us. We are all in this together and are here to help.
School calendar events	1. Wednesday 7 June – P7 Parents Evening 2. Friday 9 June – Sports Day 3. Friday 9 June – Senior Prom 4. Monday 12 June – Parent Council Meeting (In school) 5. Tuesday 20 – Thursday 22 – P7 Transition visits 6. Tuesday 27 June – Annual Celebration Evening 7. Wednesday 28 June – last day of term – 12.30pm finish 8. Exam results day – Tuesday 8 August
School Improvement Plan	Our School Improvement Plan can be located here. Improvement and Quality - Gracemount High School

Kind regards,

Ross Hunter

Head Teacher

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