Committed to Care and Excellence

Gracemount High School

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Head Teacher
Mr Ross Hunter

Depute Head Teachers
Ms Tania Peters (Tiree)
Mrs Amanda Lyons (Lewis)
Mr Mark Gregor (Skye)

Business Manager
Mrs Anne O'Neil

23 April 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Head Teacher update – April and May 2025

Welcome to the Head Teachers update for April and May 2024/25.

Thank you to all the parents/carers that responded to the requests from February and March to indicate their engagement with this Head Teacher's update. On average we seem to be getting about 40 parents/carers engaging with the update and will endeavour to find ways to improve engagement. If you have any ideas on how we can do this, please email me directly at ross.hunter@gracemount.edin.sch.uk.

In the meantime, please see updates below.

Title	Details
All Parents/Carers School Dress Code	I will write to all parents/carers next week regarding dress code as we prepare for warmer weather over the coming months.
All Parents/Carers GHS Parent Council	Please find a link to our Parent Council information site on our website here If you would like to make contact with our Parent Council for any reason you can contact via email using the address below gracemounthspc@gmail.com
S4-6 Parents/Carers Only SQA Timetable	Good luck to all our students sitting SQA exams and finalising course work over the next few weeks. If your child is in S4, S5 or S6 please discuss their exam dates and times with them. All students have individual timetables issued and should know the exact time and dates for their exams. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Please find a link to the SQA timetable nq-2025-exam-timetable (1).pdf. Please refer to key dates below for further information.
S4-6 Parents/Carers Only Study leave	Details have been shared with a summary below: **S6 Pupils** From Thursday 24th April, all S6 pupils will commence study leave. Pupils will only be required to come into school to sit their National Examinations however can attend timetabled classes as normal. **S5 Pupils**

	From Thursday 24th April all S5 pupils will commence study leave. Pupils will only be required to come into school to sit their National Examinations however can attend timetabled classes as normal. **S4 Pupils** Thursday 24th April all S4 pupils sitting 4 or more National 5 qualifications commence study leave. Pupils will only be required to come into school to sit their National Examinations however can attend timetabled classes as normal. Pupils sitting 3 or less National 5 qualifications will have 3 days leave before any exam along with the date of the exam. At all other times pupils will be expected to attend school and access their normal timetabled classes or planned Meaningful May activities.
All Parents/Carers Parent/Carer Annual Survey	We had 111 responses to our annual survey and I will publish results of this in due course. Thank you to everyone that took their time to share their views with us.
All Parents/Carers Staffing Update	**Curriculum Leader of Expressive Arts** Congratulations to Mrs Emma Whyte who has secured this post on a permanent basis. **ESP Maternity Cover** A warm welcome to Panagiota Karampelia who has taken up maternity cover post for Ailie Scott Dickins in the ESP from this week.
All Parents/Carers Attendance and Punctuality	**Reporting an absence – Please support us by actioning the following:** If your child is unable to attend school for any reason it is important you contact the school on their first day of absence to inform us. This can be done by calling 0131 664 7440, emailing admin@gracemount.edin.sch.uk or by responding to the absence text stating their name, year and reason for their absence. If you are requesting absence during the school term-time, please contact the school office who will supply a form that you should complete and send to me. This is an updated procedure and is in place across all schools in Edinburgh.
All Parents/Carers Key Dates	1. 24 April – SQA examinations start 2. Week beginning 28 April – S3 tracking issued 3. 5 May – Holiday 4. 6 May – School Inset day 5. Week beginning 12 May – S1 Tracking reports issued 6. 19 May- Holiday 7. 30 May – Senior prom 8. 2 June – New Timetable begins

Yours sincerely,
Ross Hunter
Head Teacher