

**Harris Academy**

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*Respect Equality Enjoyment Achievement*

15<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**Parent / Carer Newsletter Session 2021 – 2022  
Issue 10**

Dear Parent / Carer,

I hope the following information is of use to you.

**Parent Council meeting**

Our next Parent Council meeting takes place this Thursday at 7pm on Teams. If you would like to attend but do not have a link to join the online meeting, please email the office who will provide this.

**Act of Remembrance**

Our school community held our annual Remembrance Service on Wednesday morning. Two minutes of silence was impeccably observed across the school. Thank you to our School Captains, our young people who were selected to attend our service, Rev. Grant Maclaughin, Pam Nesbitt our Education Manager, and representatives of our FP Association for their support.

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1458529131738632200>



**BBC Share Your Story Tour**

We had the privilege earlier this week to be the first school in Scotland to take part in the pilot of the BBC100 Share Your Story Tour.

Over 300 young people from S1 and S2 had the opportunity to attend a small-scale assembly held in our tiered seating area hosted by Amy Irons, BBC Scotland Sports and Entertainment Presenter. The BBC Share Your Story schools tour aims to inspire students to tell their story and to recognise their agency in shaping their story and learn from others who have overcome setbacks.

During their session our young people heard from Fraser Fletcher, BBC News researcher and presenter, and Yvette Twagiramariya who talked about their own stories and a watershed moment in their lives, sharing how they overcame a significant challenge.

Young people were also introduced to the BBC Young Reporter programme and further opportunities for them to share their stories

## **Skills Development Scotland national webinar for parents and carers on the options and support available for school leavers**

As part of Scottish Careers Week, Skills Development Scotland (SDS) has a nationwide online session for parents and carers covering options and support available for school leavers on Wednesday 17 November at 6.30pm.

Parents and carers can find out more about the range of options available for their young person as they prepare to leave school and how parents and carers can support them.

SDS Careers Advisers will be providing expert advice and there will be opportunities for parents and carers to ask questions during the session. Help is also available on SDS's online home for career information and advice [My World of Work](#).

Please register for the event here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/school-leaver-options-tickets-195981003457>

Find out more about [Scottish Careers Week](#).

## **S4 Virtual Parents' Evening – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

We are intending to host our very first 'virtual' parents' evening next week to support young people in S4, and their parents and carers, as they continue to work towards their National Qualifications this session.

Appointments will be hosted via 'Parents Evenings Online' which is available as either an App or on a web-based platform.

Further information will be sent to the parents and carers of all young people in S4 next week to support them to make effective use of this system. This will include Log In information as well as a Parent & Carer guide.

It is our hope to roll out our use of this system following a review of our initial 'virtual' session.

## **Dates for your diary**

On the final page of this newsletter, you will find a list of all relevant dates in our school calendar which I hope will be of use to you.

Kind regards,



Barry Millar  
Head Teacher

# Harris Academy | dates for your diary Term 2 – Term 4

## Session 21-22

### Term Dates and Holidays

#### Term 2 – Winter Term

Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Winter Term begins
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET Day 2
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET Day 3
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Winter Term ends

#### Term 3 – Spring Term

Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Spring Term starts
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mid-term holiday 1
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mid-term holiday 2
Tues 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	INSET Day 4
Thurs 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Spring Term ends

#### Term 4 – Summer Term

Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer Term starts
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	May holiday 1
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	INSET Day 5
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> May	May holiday 2
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Exceptional Closure Day (Queen's Platinum Jubilee)
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Victoria Day holiday

#### Session 2022 – 2023

Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Aug	New school session begins (staff)
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> Aug	New school session begins (pupils)

### Examination Dates

A separate Assessment calendar will be issued by w/c 15<sup>th</sup> November

Final SQA Exams Tues 26<sup>th</sup> April – Wed 1<sup>st</sup> June

### Senior Phase Engagement Events

UCAS Engagement event	23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2021
Course Choice Information Evening	Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> January



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### Reporting

S1 Tracking Report 1	w/b 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov
S1 Tracking Report 2	w/b 7 <sup>th</sup> Mar
S1 Tracking Report 3	w/b 30 <sup>th</sup> May
S2 Tracking Report 1	w/b 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan
S2 Tracking Report 2	w/b 18 <sup>th</sup> April
S3 Tracking Report 1	w/b 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan
S3 Tracking Report 2	w/b 9 <sup>th</sup> May
S4 – S6 Tracking Report 1	w/b 13 <sup>th</sup> Sep
S4 – S6 Tracking Report 2	w/b 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov
S4 – S6 Tracking Report 3	w/b 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb

### Parent / Carer Contact Evenings

S1	Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> June
S2	Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan
S3	Tues 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb
S4	Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov *
S5/6 Birnam & Cawdor	Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov *
S5/6 Forres & Kinloch	Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec *

Please note that due to COVID-19, some parent / carer events may be hosted online over the course of the session. This includes all performances and P7 Transition events.

\*indicates confirmed online events.

### Key Events

#### Celebration of Achievements and Prize Giving

Session 20–21 online awards ceremony	25 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
S1 – S3 (BGE) Award Ceremony	To be arranged – now clashes with Platinum Jubilee holiday
S4 – S6 (Senior Phase) Awards Ceremony	Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> June

### Performances

S3 Christmas Panto	Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> , Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Christmas Carol Service	Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec

### P7 Transition Events

Maths Challenge	17. 18 <sup>th</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov
DHT Visits	1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov
PT Guidance visits	Term 2
S1 Welcome events	Term 3
Health & wellbeing event	Term 3 / 4
Passport to Europe event	Term 4
P7 Two-day visits	9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> June (tbc)
P7 Parent / Carer evening	13 <sup>th</sup> June (tbc)

### Parent Council Meetings

Term 2 Meeting	Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov
Term 3 Meeting (1)	Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Term 3 Meeting (2)	Tues 1 <sup>st</sup> Mar
Term 4 Meeting (1)	Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> April
Term 4 Meeting (2)	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May