



## Brechin High School Newsletter September 2016

Brechin High School values are: **F**riendliness, **A**chievement, **I**nclusion, **T**rust & Respect and **H**onesty.

### Car park

At the time of writing work is progressing well with the campus car park with work scheduled to be completed the week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> October. In the meantime, to allow the level of the road to be raised to that of the new car park, we have also lost access to the disabled parking (although support has been provided for regular users of the campus). If you have an issue with parking please continue to contact us and we will try our best to help. Also, in the interests of safety and maintaining good relationships with our neighbours it would be helpful if pupils being driven to school can be dropped off at the junction with North Latch Road and allowed to walk the remainder of the journey up Duke Street.

### Training Centre

Construction of a training centre at the west side of the campus began on 19<sup>th</sup> September. The project may take about 19 weeks to complete but should be finished by March 2017 at the latest. Dave Smith, Project Manager for the campus, has secured funding of £300,000 from the 'Inspiring Learning Fund', provided by Scottish Futures Trust with some additional funding provided by Angus Council. Although Forster Group will be our main partners in the project, a number of other partners will also be involved in delivering industry level qualifications to our pupils. For example, we are hoping that up to 12 of our S5/6 pupils will be able to begin a foundation apprenticeship in Civil Engineering next session. This is an exciting, innovative project and in addition to providing training to our pupils Forster Group will also be using the facility to train their own staff and members of the local community on our site.

### Street Kids

Following the trip to Rwanda last October during which the pupils worked with a group of street kids helping them to move from sleeping in holes in the ground to living in their first home, other staff at the school wanted to continue supporting the street kids. They decided to sponsor two of the street kids, Mugisha Manzi Joshua and Rugamba Patrick. Both Joshua and Patrick are 8 years old. Sponsorship costs a total of £480 a year. Pupils and staff have already raised this year's sponsorship money. Thanks to the support received through the Brechin High School community, both Joshua and Patrick are now living in a house, sleeping in their very first bed with clothes to spare and receiving enough food each day. They also started school in January. The lives of both boys have now changed for the better thanks to the support received from Brechiners.



**Patrick**



**Joshua**

## **Rural Parliament**

From 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> October the Scottish Rural Parliament takes place in Brechin Community Campus. This is a real coup for Brechin & Angus and will give the city nationwide attention for the length of the parliament. Around 400 delegates from across rural Scotland will attend to discuss issues of importance to rural communities. The aim is to engage with those who live and work in rural communities and agree a manifesto that can bring pressure to bear on our government that will lead to positive action and sustainable improvement. It is a participative event and anyone who lives and works in a rural area can attend. The programme and booking information can be found on the website: <http://www.scottishruralparliament.org.uk/>

## **Sports News**

BHS will be competing in several competitions this year, below is the netball, football and rugby for the first 2 terms.

Football: S2, S3 and Senior teams will be playing in the Angus Cup. The senior team are also competing in the Scottish Schools Cup. All will start at the quarter-final stage. Dates are still to be confirmed. S1/2 v Montrose Academy, S3 v Arbroath Academy, Senior v Arbroath Academy

Rugby: BHS will combine with Montrose Academy at S1, S2 and U16 level to play in a league against Strathmore and Carnoustie. 14<sup>th</sup> Sept v Strathmore, 21<sup>st</sup> Sept v Carnoustie, 19<sup>th</sup> Oct v Strathmore, 26<sup>th</sup> Oct – Tournament.

Netball: S2/3 and Senior teams will compete in the Scottish Cup, which will initially be a league with local teams, the top teams progressing into knockout. Dates to be confirmed. S2/3 league: BHS, Arbroath High, Carnoustie High, Montrose Academy  
Senior: BHS, Lathallan B, Arbroath High B, Arbroath Academy, Montrose Academy

*\*we have been promoting Netball in school but if there is anyone in the community who would be interested in running a club outside of school times then we would love to help out as much as possible. If you are interested then please contact the school\**

### Extra-Curricular Clubs

Clubs run at lunch time and after school will include – football, dodge-ball, climbing, netball and basketball.

## **Parents**

There are a number of different ways for parents to be involved in the life of the school with perhaps the most obvious being the Parent Council. Attending the Parent Council is open to anyone who is a parent at Brechin High with meetings roughly once or twice each term. The minutes from the meetings are saved to the school website and reading them will give you an idea of the kind of things discussed. Have a look or come along to the next meeting on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 6.45 in the Conference Room in the campus. Just go to reception and say you are attending the parent council and a member of staff will help you find the room. You'll get a cup of tea or coffee and a warm welcome – you will also be able to park your car!

## **Parent Consultation**

Following extensive discussion about the school's course choice process at the parent council meeting in September, it was agreed to offer all parents an opportunity to discuss this further. We have organised a consultation event for parents on **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October from 6.30 - 8.00** during which the different course choice procedures will be explained with an opportunity for input from parents about how to improve how we do things. Again, this is open to all parents as whatever stage your child is at you will either be able to talk about your experience of course choice or what you would like to happen.

## **Additional Support Needs Parent Forum**

In response to requests from parents at Brechin High School, Angus Council have offered to set up a forum to discuss the needs of parents and pupils in relation to the provision of additional support needs in the Brechin Cluster. This is open to all parents of primary or secondary children in the Brechin area but may be of particular interest to anyone with a child who has additional support needs. The forum will be organised by Sharon Preston, Educational Support Officer for ASN. The meeting will be held in Brechin Community Campus on **Thursday 27 October 2016 between 6.30pm and 7.30pm**. This initial meeting will be to share the vision and priorities of the ASN Service and also to consult on what the parent body would like future meetings to cover.

## **Revision**

Within next term we hope to add a number of audio or visual files to the school website containing revision material that pupils can download to help them with their studies. For any pupil who has difficulty accessing the internet at home we can certainly help with this problem here in school.

## **Key Dates**

There are a number of university open days before Christmas. Dates are also available on the school website.

End of term: 30/09/16;

Start of term 2: 17/10/16;

End of term 2: 21/12/16

Parents Evenings: S4-6 - 26/10/16;

S1- 7/11/16;

P6/7 - 21/11/16;

S2 - 6/12/16

In-service days: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November with the St Andrews Day holiday on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

## **University Open Days**

Edinburgh Napier University - Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October

University of Edinburgh - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October

Glasgow Caledonian University - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October

Strathclyde University - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October

Perth College UHI Wednesday - 12 October 2016 (2pm-7pm)

University of Aberdeen - Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

University of Glasgow - Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Robert Gordon's University - Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October

Stirling University - Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October

Highland Theological College UHI - Saturday 29 October 2016 (10am-3pm), Saturday 18 March 2017 (10am-3pm)

Inverness College UHI - Saturday 29 October 2016, time to be confirmed