



## St. Ninian's HIGH SCHOOL

Scoil Ard Noo Ninian

Our Ref: JWH/GF/Autumn

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian

### **RE: Autumn Term Update**

We are almost at the end of our first half term of the academic year at Lower School and what a busy one it has been!

We have welcomed almost 240 Year 7 students to St. Ninian's to begin their journey with us, as well as many new students arriving to join us in Year 8 and 9. It is pleasing to see how well everyone has settled into the new routines of the school day as well as watching new friendships grow and develop.

Year 7 have experienced 2 drop down days, with external agencies commenting on how well all students engaged with their learning and activities.

Year 9 will have their first drop down day today (Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October) and Year 8 enjoyed Litfest with a visiting author.

There has also been some excellent sporting success from our Lower School sports teams. I have attached a list of the many extracurricular clubs and activities that are available to students at Lower School. It has been fantastic to see so many students taking advantage of the opportunities offered to them by our staff. If your son or daughter has not yet signed up to any clubs, please encourage them to do so. They can check out the clubs list on their ePraise account by clicking on the 'Community' and 'Activities' tab.

### **Key Dates**

It has been a pleasure to see so many parents at both the Y7 Meet the Tutor evening and the recent Year 9 Parents evening. There are several important events coming up over the next few months and more information will follow nearer the time. Below is an early reminder of some key dates:

- Lower School Christmas Lunch in the Dining Room – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December
- Year 9 Pre-Options Information Evening – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 3:30pm
- Y9 Options Evening – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March from 4:00pm - 6:00pm at Upper School
- Y7 Parents Evening – Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 3:30pm
- Y8 Parents Evening – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 3:30pm

Continued.....

### **LOWER SCHOOL (Years 7 – 9)**

Heywood Avenue, Onchan

Isle of Man, IM3 3AR

+44 (0) 1624 648900

### **UPPER SCHOOL (Years 10 – 13)**

Ballaquayle Road, Douglas

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[WWW.SNHS.IM](http://WWW.SNHS.IM)

**HEAD TEACHER** Mr C. J. Coole

*Live to Learn  
Learn to Live*



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### Autumn Concert

On **Thursday 24th October 2024** we will see our first musical event of the year with many students involved in the Autumn Concert. It starts at 7pm in the Main Hall at Lower School and entry is free so you are all warmly invited to come along and enjoy the evening.

### Non-Uniform Day

Friday 25th October 2024 is the last day of the half term and as is tradition at St Ninian's, it is non-uniform day. This will be the first time Year 7 students have experienced non-uniform day so I would like to remind you all of the requirement to bring in £1 if students wish to wear their own clothes. The money from non-uniform days goes to charities nominated by the student charity committee. We will collect money from students as they arrive through the front doors on Friday morning.

### Remembrance

As part of the commemoration of those who lost their lives during battle, Lower School students will once again be representing the school at Onchan Remembrance events on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November and Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November. If your child would like to join me in representing the school on either of those days, please ask them to collect a letter from the main office. In addition, the school will be selling poppies and associated items. Please do send your child into school with some loose change if they wish to make a donation in exchange for a poppy or similar.

### Reminders

As the weather turns colder over the coming weeks, I would like to remind students to remember to wear a warm coat to and from school. Students are expected to go outside at breaks and lunchtimes once they have finished in the canteen, so it is important that they dress appropriately for the Manx weather! They can collect coats from their lockers before they go outside.

We have had some communication from Bus Vannin regarding incidents of poor behaviour on the school buses on the way home from school, in particular the 33 route. Stops around the Willaston area have only recently been reinstated at our request and Bus Vannin have asked us to remind students that if poor behaviour continues, they will withdraw those stops again and students living in that area will need to walk home. I would be grateful if parents could remind their children about the importance of behaving appropriately when travelling on the school buses.

I would also like to remind parents that the school car park should not be used for dropping off and collecting children at the start and end of the day, unless you are a blue badge holder. Please use the clearly marked drop off zone on the left as you enter the school drive.

Thank you for your continued support and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable half term and we look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Monday 4th November.

Yours faithfully

Miss Joanne White  
Deputy Head Teacher

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