



Balerno High School

A community built on strong relationships
and a commitment to success

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Head Teacher: Ros Ranger

Head Teacher update 4th March 2024

Staffing

We are currently in the process of recruiting staff across a range of subjects for session 2024-25. These posts have arisen as we have a rising roll which is projected to be 903 in August 2024.

We are delighted to have Vaila Wright as Acting DHT on a Tuesday to backfill for Evonne O'Doherty. Hannah Symon is backfilling for Vaila's PSL post on a Tuesday up to the summer.

Pupil Successes

Fairtrade Art Competition

Well done to our Art Prize Winners who were presented with their prizes on Saturday at the Fairtrade event in Balerno Parish Church Halls.

S1

First, Nathan Dempsey
Second, Cameron McLaren
Third, DC Cowan

S2

First, Eva Crane
Second, Holly Finlayson
Third, Olivia Harker

S3

First, Hana Donohoe
Second, Sophie Barnett
Third, Sophie Lumsden.





Senior Study Camp

Many thanks to Vaila Wright for organising the Senior Study Camp at Ardentenny this weekend. Our staff support included Steven Russell, Kirsty Templeton, Jen Aitchson and Heather Arnold. Forty-nine S4/5 pupils took part in a mixture of activities including study skills and outdoor activities.

Upcoming events and information

Spring Concert

Our Spring Concert will take place on Wednesday 27th March, we look forward to this annual event, though it is always tinged with sadness as it is the last time for S6 pupils, and any other leavers perform.

Study Leave

The last day for S4/5/6 pupils before the SQA exam diet is Friday 19th April. The SQA exams run from 22nd April through to the end of May.

The new S5 pupils return to school on Monday 3rd June to start their new timetable.

The new S6 return on Friday 31st May, the Friday morning is their induction, and they start their new timetable on Monday 3rd June.

Immersion Timetable

Following the success of the Immersion Timetable in the last 2 years we are happy to organise this again for 2024.

This provides Senior Phase pupils with the opportunity to meet with a subject specialist prior to their exam for either a half or full day offer. We appreciate there may be coincidence between study days and exams and unfortunately this cannot always be avoided. The Immersion timetable will be shared with pupils, parents, and carers later this week.

Communication feedback

As we move into our next cycle of improvement planning it would be helpful to gather feedback on the weekly HT update email and the school padlet.

<https://forms.office.com/e/Pvd5HCw0c5>



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