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Date: 17th August 2021



Education and Families

Mr Gregg Orrock
Head Teacher
Kilsyth Academy
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Kilsyth
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www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

As Friday fast approaches I felt it appropriate to give you a brief update on our progress with our Future Friday's programme.

As you know, Future Fridays is an afternoon enrichment programme for pupils that will take place from 1.00pm to 3.00pm and follows a planned change to the structure of the school week in North Lanarkshire that effectively sees the school week end at 12.30pm on a Friday. You can read more about Future Fridays at the following link:

<https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/future-fridays-its-yours-make>

Towards the end of last session, schools working closely with North Lanarkshire Council began the process of planning and, in our case this included a survey of pupils to start to determine what types of activities they would be interested in. This has allowed us to make initial arrangements for some activities that will begin over the next few weeks. The programme across the authority will starting small to get things up and running and it is hoped that all schools will progress from a basic initial offer over the first few weeks of term towards a full offer by January 2022. You can also watch a brief video about the programme at this link: <https://vimeo.com/585753185>

Over the next few weeks, we hope to have activities in place that include Netball, Football, a dance leaders qualification, a leadership course and potentially college courses running in school offering an introduction to British Sign Language and an introduction to careers in the Emergency Services. Furthermore, we are planning to build in opportunities with an employability focus for older pupils. From this initial base we will continue to engage with pupils to build a full programme to meet their needs. To support this initiative, Mr Pryde has been appointed as a new Principal Teacher with a focus on wider achievement and pupil engagement including coordinating and overseeing the development of our Future Fridays programme.

Working with our partners, this week sees the start of our Football and Netball options with others coming on stream over the next few weeks. Mr Pryde has spoken to pupils about signing up for these activities and will contact parents of those pupils directly via e-mail. Pupils who have signed up for these activities should bring appropriate P.E. kit to take part.



Transport

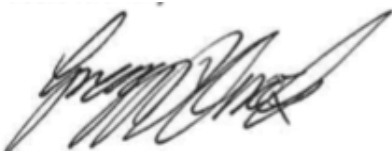
This will be available on Fridays at both 12.30pm and 3.00pm for pupils who normally travel by school transport. Initially, for those staying on to participate in activities, transport home on a Friday will be organised directly by the school and will likely be a taxi until our programme is more complete and we understand pupil demand. For those leaving school at 12.30pm, school buses will collect pupils as normal.

If you have any questions or would like more information about our plans for Future Fridays you can contact Mr Pryde at the following email address: gw16prydedarren@glow.sch.uk

Finally, and although still at an early stage, I hope that as our programme builds that as many of our pupils as possible benefit from participating.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregg Orrock', written in a cursive style.

Gregg Orrock
Head Teacher