



September 2009

Dear Parents

I hope you all had an opportunity for rest and relaxation during the summer which, I suppose, is now a distant memory! Your sons and daughters have settled in well and are looking forward to the challenges that the new session will bring. I have been impressed by the way they have applied themselves to all aspects of school life.

During my first few weeks at KA I have enjoyed getting to know the girls and boys and have been thoroughly impressed at the wide range of activities in which they are involved. The unique family atmosphere at KA has been mentioned to me by many parents, staff and the pupils themselves. It is, indeed a very special place!

Refurbishment Works

I am pleased to say that after some delays, due to the appalling weather in the summer, phase 1 of the planned work to the roof will be completed by the October holiday. The scaffolding, surrounding the school, will be removed by mid October and the school building will look more like its usual self! The cleaning of the stonework has made a huge difference – I'm sure you'll be impressed.

Open Mornings

We shall be holding Open Mornings on **Thursday 5 and Tuesday 10 November** and you will be most welcome to join us then. Also, if you have any friends or family who may be considering sending their children to KA please do pass on the enclosed invitation to them.

Session Dates 2010-2011

I enclose a copy of the session dates for 2010-2011. I should be grateful if you would adhere to these dates when booking holidays, since absence during term time is disruptive to your child's education.

Pre-Appeal SQA Examination Results - 2009

My colleagues and I were very pleased with last session's SQA examination results. Pupils of all abilities exceeded targets and achieved well above the national pass rates. The number and level of presentations for each pupil are tailored to suit the varying abilities of individual candidates; our results clearly show the benefit of this policy.

Standard Grade Percentage Pass Rate – Senior 4

Grade	1-4	1-3	1-2	1
Kelvinside	98%	98%	90%	48%
National	85%	71%	46%	20%

* Subjects at SG: English, Computing, Maths, History, Mod Studies, Art, Accounts & Finance

Intermediate 2 Percentage Pass rate – Senior 4

Grade	A-C	A-B	A
Kelvinside	94%	81%	62%
National	77%	57%	33%

* Subjects at I2: English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, French, German, Spanish, Geography

Higher Percentage Pass Rate – Senior 5

Grade	A-C	A-B	A
Kelvinside	88%	68%	39%
National	74%	49%	24%

Advanced Higher Percentage Pass Rate – Senior 5

Grade	A-C	A-B	A
Kelvinside	100%	100%	100%
National	78%	52%	26%

*Subject presented: Music

Advanced Higher Percentage Pass Rate – Senior 6

Grade	A-C	A-B	A
Kelvinside	81%	58%	29%
National	74%	51%	26%

Intermediate 2 Percentage Pass Rate – Senior 5

Grade	A-C	A-B	A
Kelvinside	93%	64%	20%
National	77%	57%	33%

*Subjects at I2: Maths, English, Music, Business Mgt, Geography, French, Spanish, PE

Higher Percentage Pass Rate – Senior 6

Grade	A-C	A-B	A
Kelvins ide	85%	55%	23%
National	74%	49%	24%

My colleagues and I believe that our young people's commitment to sport, music, CCF debating, community service and a whole host of other activities will have played a significant role in our pupils' academic results.

Extra-Curricular Activities

The vast majority of our young people are actively involved in a number of extra-curricular activities. If your son/daughter has not yet joined a club or activity, I would ask you to encourage him/her to get involved in at least one activity this session. I enclose a copy of the activities on offer in the Senior & Junior School.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

The PTA at KA makes a valuable contribution in a number of ways to life at the school. We have an extremely active association that works hard to put on events aimed at involving all sections of the KA family. On Sunday 13 September, a highly successful BBQ at Balgray was held which attracted over 200 people. What a glorious day it was – the sun shone and everyone had great fun.

I enclose, with this mailing, information from our PTA and a list of their events planned for this term. I would encourage you to support these. The PTA is always looking for volunteers to help throughout the year, so if you can spare time to help at any of the events, please do complete the slip enclosed.

Parking at School and at Balgray

It is disappointing to have to mention that there have been several instances of parents parking without due consideration to our neighbours in the vicinity of the school and at Balgray which have resulted in complaints from our neighbours. There have also been instances of parking, particularly around the school, which have been so bad they have been a real safety concern. Examples of these include double parking, parking on corners, parking across the entrances to the nearby lanes and even on the zigzag lines. Our community police have been contacted and will be patrolling the area from time to time.

The roads around the playing fields at Balgray and those around the school can become particularly congested. Please ensure that cars are not parked across residents' driveways. Finally, in the interests of the safety of all our children, I would urge parents to park safely at all times, even if it does mean having to park further away from school or Balgray, resulting in a slightly longer walk.

School Rules/Dress Code

You may be aware from your son or daughter that, since the beginning of the session, we have regularly drawn to the attention of our pupils the importance of being smartly attired and behaving appropriately. I am pleased to say that the girls and boys have responded well. We would appreciate, though, your continued support in our efforts to ensure that the dress code is followed.

School Show – Pygmalion

You are cordially invited to the school show which, this year, is Pygmalion. Performances commence at 7.00pm on **Monday 21 to Thursday 26 November**.

Africa Week

Kelvinside Academy launches 'Africa Week' commencing Monday 26 October. This whole school initiative will celebrate the culture of Africa both in the classroom and on stage as well as providing a vehicle for some fun-filled charity events. In addition to many lower key activities, the main event will be an evening concert on **Thursday 29 October** at 7.00pm. **'This is Music'** organised by sixth year pupils. There will be performances from a range of senior school pupils. Tickets are now available from Reception, costing £5. Further details regarding Africa Week will be sent home with pupils after half term.

I look forward to getting to know you and your family better, and to meeting you at the various events throughout the session. I wish you and your family an enjoyable October holiday.

Yours sincerely



Lesley A Douglas
Rector

Enclosures: Session dates: 2010-2011
Date for the Winter Term
Letter from School Librarian
Information from PTA

Invitation to Open Day
Senior & Junior School Activities Sheets
Calendar Order Form