



# Jordanhill School



## Parents' Conference 2018

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018

7.00pm – 9.00pm

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are delighted to invite you to attend our third parents' conference on 18<sup>th</sup> September. The feedback from the conferences in 2016 and 2017 was very positive.

This year's conference themes provide you with an opportunity to hear in some depth about a significant aspect of our work and then to engage in a collective discussion about the School's future. Please book your event here.

The conference events will be followed by the Annual General Meeting which last for 30 minutes and concludes with a social gathering. We do hope that you will be able to join us on the evening.

Ken Alexander

Convenor of Board of Managers

Paul Thomson

Rector

### Theme 1: Teaching & Learning

John Anderson (Depute Head Teacher)

Target Audience: P4-S6

Teachers in Jordanhill School have spent over a year reviewing research and practice to create a toolkit which captures effective teaching strategies. This session will explore the toolkit and shed light on some of the myths surrounding effective teaching and learning. Why do teachers in the school use certain methods and why are other methods best avoided? A warm welcome is extended to all parents with an interest in finding out more about Primary and Secondary education in Jordanhill School.

### Theme 2: Science Technology Engineering & Maths Education

Giuliana Iafate (Biology) and Jack McGinlay (Chemistry)

Target Audience: P5-S3

This session marks the launch of our new STEM web site and will offer insight into the school's approach to STEM teaching and detail our plans for strengthening provision. STEM is a priority for the Scottish Government in recognition of the importance of these subjects in building a strong economy. Jordanhill School has a long tradition of pupils achieving highly in STEM subjects with over half of all pupils going on to study a STEM related subject at University.

Please note that this session is similar to that in 2017. Parents who attended in 2017 may wish to choose an alternative workshop.

### Theme 3: Centenary Celebrations

Gavin McLellan (Director of Development)

Target Audience: All

Jordanhill will celebrate its centenary in 2020. In the two weeks up to the conference we are consulting our pupils as to how they would wish to mark and celebrate this milestone.

In this workshop you will hear about some of the exciting plans to date, hear some of the preliminary ideas of pupils and share your views as to how we should mark the occasion.

#### **Theme 4: Mentors in Violence Prevention**

**Target Audience: S1-S6**

Susan McDade, Emma Jane Thomson, Eleanor Trevena, Gillian Dunlop.

The MVP programme provides schools with an excellent tool to explore a range of issues affecting young people. It uses a creative bystander approach to help prevent bullying and gender based violence. Pupils are not seen as victims or perpetrators but rather empowered bystanders with the ability to support and challenge friends and peers. Much of the learning takes place via scenarios and this workshop will help you find out about the programme and to experience a scenario activity yourself.

MVP mentors are crucial to the running of the programme and we will be recruiting senior pupils to be trained as mentors this term so that they can provide their younger peers with the knowledge and tools to navigate their secondary school years, helping to build a safer school community.

#### **Theme 5: Big Maths**

**Target Audience: P2-P5**

Emma McIntyre (Principal Teacher) and Robin Paton (Depute Head Primary)

**Big Maths** is a fun, interactive teaching method that helps children to become numerate and improve their mental maths skills. You will

- hear about the rationale for improving practice
- share a number of the interactive teaching strategies.
- experience some of the classroom activities across Early, First and Second Levels
- meet some Big Maths characters and find out about Fact families, Jigsaw Numbers, Smile Multiplication, Coin Multiplication and FAB Maths!

The weekly '**Big Maths Beat That**' challenges and the **progression steps** for the four elements will also be available for perusal.

#### **Theme 6: The Design Process and the Danish Connection**

**Target Audience: P6-S6**

Paul Jennings (Principal Teacher of Design & Technology)

The Design & Technology Department has been working with the VIA University in Aarhus since 2014. Various delegations have visited (the latest today!) and Mr Jennings has twice been invited to Denmark to work with teachers.

The focus for this work has been the Design Process. Pupils are taught to think like designers and work through the brief, research and iterative development phases to a completed solution. This work has catalysed much fresh thinking in strategies used to engage and inspire our pupils. Come and find out more.

#### **Theme 7: Relationships, Sexual Health & Parenthood**

**Target Audience: P1-P7**

Richard Buchan (Head of Primary) and Ashley Templeton (Principal Teacher)

This presentation will outline the rationale and content of the school's RSHP programme. Lessons are taught by class teachers and all content is age and stage appropriate. At the heart of this programme is a focus on fostering positive relationships. The lessons equip children with the knowledge, understanding and skills to support them to make confident and informed choices as they mature. There will also be an opportunity to view the teaching materials and ask questions about the programme.

#### **Theme 8: Alcohol Awareness**

**Target Audience: All**

PC Craig Brooks, Partick Community Police Officer

This session will inform parents about the reality of alcohol from a police and community perspective who are seeking to enhance collective responsibility in reducing and preventing issues that impact on youth and the wider community. He will explore the consequences of bad decision making underpinned by a lack of accurate information and self / social accountability on the part of young people.