



St Kentigern's Academy

West Main Street
Blackburn
BATHGATE
West Lothian
EH47 7LX

Tel: 01506 280570

e-mail: wlstkentigerns-ac@westlothian.org.uk
www.stkentigernsacademy.org

Head Teacher:
Mr Andrew Sharkey

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC

3rd June 2024

Dear Parent/ Carer

Re: Building Works at St Kentigern's Academy

I hope this letter finds you well. Please see below the latest update on matters relating to the ongoing works to upgrade our school.

- **SQA Exams** – all SQA exams are now complete for this session. Throughout the exam period, we worked closely with all contractors to ensure that there was minimum disruption to our youngsters sitting these exams in the school building.



- **Outdoor Learning** – throughout the ongoing works, and taking advantage of the milder weather, we are maximising learning opportunities outdoors. A group of students have been busy in the polytunnel growing plants and we also had two fabulous sports days on 23rd and 24th May. The sports days were well attended and provided a great opportunity for our youngsters to engage in a variety of sporting events.

- **Engagement Sessions** - engagement sessions with students and staff were held on 31st May and a Parent Council session will be held on 5th June in the school. These sessions are designed to provide opportunities for stakeholders to engage with the architects about the development of the New Wing for St Kentigern's Academy.
- **Building work** – demolition work is progressing well and those of you who have driven past or live close by will appreciate just how quickly the condemned part of the building is coming down. The new car park construction is on track and should be open in August this year. This will provide sufficient space for all staff to park as well as a safe drop off zone and visitor parking area. Meantime, please ensure you park safely and legally and, to ensure student safety, we ask that you do not park in the bus bays/minibus drop off area when visiting the school.
- **Student Voice** – the student voice group have contributed to a video where they give their views about their experiences during the ongoing building works as well as describing what they are most looking forward to when the new Wing of the school opens. Please see a link to some of the videos on the school website at [Student Views on Demolition and Rebuild - St Kentigern's Academy \(westlothian.org.uk\)](http://westlothian.org.uk). These videos formed part of a presentation by Dr Elaine Cook and Greg Welsh at the Learning Places Conference in Edinburgh. The presentation “Prioritising the learning through the extreme challenges from RAAC at St Kentigern's Academy, West Lothian” outlined the significant challenges issues caused by RAAC which resulted in much of the school being condemned.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions regarding the building work or its impact on the school, please feel free to email Sally Cameron at sally.cameron@westlothian.org.uk.

Yours Sincerely



Sally Cameron
Quality Improvement Officer