Semi-colons

A **semi-colon** can be used to separate two <u>related</u> main clauses which are of equal importance.

Don't FORGET!

A main clause contains one idea or event, a verb and <u>always</u> makes sense on its own.

Semi-colons show the reader that there is a pause in the sentence that is longer than for a comma but shorter than for a full stop.

Examples

The film was amazing. We all had a great time!

The film was amazing; we all had a great time!

Cliòdhna has a new sister. Her name is Magella.

Cliòdhna has a new sister; her name is Magella.

We have new maths table groups. The names are based on our new topic.

We have new maths table groups; the names are based on our new topic.

Top tip! Don't over-use semi-colons in your writing. Mix them up with conjunctions, e.g. and, so, but etc. and dashes in place of the pause.

BREAKING NEWS

Semi-colons can also be used to separate items in lists... more information about that soon!

COMING SOON