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Our Ref: PG/CC

Date: 28 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you are all well and managing to keep yourselves safe. As ever we all continue to be grateful for the support you are providing for your young people as we continue with lockdown.

I am encouraged by the fact that the day length is increasing as we move through January. I have great hope that the roll out of the vaccinations continues to go well and can start to offer us a way back to some kind of normality.

School Return

The Scottish Government will provide information about this next week.

SQA

Information is coming through for particular subjects about assessment arrangements. Principal teachers and departments are working hard to ensure these are built into online learning at this time.

We have been advised that the final date for schools and colleges to submit provisional grades has moved from Friday 28 May to Friday 18 June 2021.

The SQA website is a useful source of information: www.sqa.org.uk

Online Learning

I am delighted to see an average 75%→80% of young people registering every day and the quality and quantity of work some young people are producing is excellent – well done.

It is important that once registered all young people then engage with the learning provided by their teachers online. Work will be uploaded on the first day that subject appears in the timetable that week. Teachers will generally be available online at the times a class is timetabled for.

Teachers are developing many different activities and ways of engaging with young people. We are monitoring pupil engagement to ensure young people are making the most of the activities and learning and teaching online.

Related to our registration we have noted a small number of young people registering in the middle of the night. This raises concerns about their sleeping patterns. We understand it is very difficult at this time, but a regular sleeping pattern is important. If you have any concerns about this please do not hesitate to contact us for support.

S3 Course Choices

At the time of writing this, we are organising our first online information evening. The S3 Course Choice evening runs tonight, Thursday 28 January 2021.

S4/5 Course Choices/.



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S4/5 Course Choices

We will run a further parents' online information evening for S4/5 parents on Thursday 4 February 2021 at 6pm. Further information to follow.

STEM – S2 Girls

We have an exciting opportunity for girls in S2 to sign up for. The Young WEIR-WISE: Discovering Engineering programme is designed to inspire young female students to discover the excitement behind a career in engineering through hands-on challenges. This takes place in Glasgow every year however this year it is online and therefore a great opportunity for us to take part in. If you would like to apply for a spot in the programme, please let your Science teacher know before Tuesday 9 February 2021. Additional information about the event can be found in your S2 Science Team.

Senior Phase Tracking and Monitoring

We are currently in the process of collating information for a tracking report for January. Please note that this will only cover Effort, Behaviour and Homework and will be issued during February via the Parentsportal.

Parentsportal

Please can we take the opportunity to remind you about our new online facility called parentsportal which was launched in October last year. We are delighted that so many of our parents and carers have already created an account and we would like to encourage more of you to do this. In the coming weeks reports will be available for our S4 to S6 students and we would welcome the opportunity to send you these via the parentsportal.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school office who will be able to help you with setting up an account and with any queries you may have.

Further details and the facility to set up an account are also available via the link www.moray.gov.uk/parentsportal.

Parent/Carer Survey

Below is a link to a parental survey in regard to home learning and well-being. Please could you take a few moments to complete this to help us. The link will be available until Tuesday 9 February.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTCtawUZKS4JCKs_qC9Gtmb4hXTtf6BUMU1ZOVINQk45Q0pEVUUXODBFNjkzMjJQSy4u

Yours faithfully

Mrs P Goodbrand
Head Teacher



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