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Our Ref: PG/CC

Date: 16 April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am delighted to be writing this to you with a school full of young people and colleagues. A school building is a very strange place without the bustle and energy of lots of young people.

For our final term of 2021 we will be issuing our Newsletters to all parents/carers including those of our Primary 7 pupils who will be joining us in August, I wish you all a warm welcome.

This week has been very positive and I am very pleased at how well the majority of young people are managing the continued COVID-19 rules that keep us all safe.

All teachers have reported how great it has been to have young people back in their classrooms.

I hope we continue to maintain our high standards of safety as we move through this term.

Senior Phase Assessments

Next week sees the start of our first round of formal assessments for Senior Phase pupils, to allow us to award grades. I would like to ask that you remind your children to ensure they are quiet around school as there will be assessments taking place throughout the building throughout the days.

All senior phase pupils will be issued with a grade booklet to complete with their teachers following assessments taking place over the next few weeks. This will support young people and teachers to ensure young people know their grades and how they can improve these where appropriate.

Term Dates

Please can I take the opportunity to remind you of some important dates for the remainder of this term.

Monday 3 May:	May Day Holiday
Thursday 13 May:	School In-Service Day
Friday 14 May:	School In-Service Day
Monday 31 May:	School In-Service Day
Monday 7 June:	Local Holiday
Friday 25 June:	End of Session
Tuesday 17 August:	Start of Session, 2021/2022

Report Abuse in Education Helpline Launch

The Department for Education has commissioned the NSPCC to establish a dedicated independent [helpline](#) for people who have experienced abuse in education. The Report Abuse in Education helpline comes after a high number of anonymous testimonials were submitted to the 'Everyone's Invited' website, documenting abuse in all types of schools, colleges, and universities.

The helpline went live on 1 April, and will provide both children and adults who have experienced sexual abuse in schools/.



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school or education with support and advice, including onward action such as contacting the police if they wish to. The helpline

The helpline will also provide support to parents and professionals. Anyone who gets in touch through this dedicated helpline will also be signposted to other relevant support services available, including Childline, which provides ongoing support and counselling to children and young people.

The dedicated and confidential NSPCC helpline – Report Abuse in Education can be reached on 0800 136 663 or by email at help@nspcc.org.uk.

Self-Testing Programme:

Please can I let you know that this week we have advised our young people of when further supplies of test kits can be picked up. This is from the school reception area on a **Tuesday** and **Thursday** as detailed below:

- BGE: 12.45pm to 1.10pm
- Senior Phase: 1.30pm to 2.00pm

Tests should continue to be undertaken on a Sunday and Wednesday and results should be recorded as detailed within the literature previously issued. Further information is also available on our school website: <http://speysidehighschool.net/parent-news/self-testing-program>

Career Ready

Speyside High School is fortunate to be able to offer the opportunity to some of our current S4 pupils to become Career Ready Students over their S5 and S6 years.

Career Ready UK, a business-led charity, supports a movement of employers and schools working together to help raise the aspirations of 16 to 19 year olds and bridge the gap between education and work by giving them access to real experience of the world of work. Together we provide an **awareness of business** that broadens young people's horizons and helps them decide whether to opt for employment, work-based learning (such as apprenticeships or school leaver programmes) or higher education.

There will be a virtual information evening for all S4 pupils and their parents/carers on **Thursday 22 April, 6.00→7.00pm**. This will be held on Google Meet and the joining code is: **meet.google.com/uzy-fvzf-iej**

Yours faithfully

Mrs P Goodbrand
Head Teacher



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