



PATRICIA GOODBRAND BSc(Hons), MEd

Head Teacher

Speyside High School Mary Avenue, Aberlour AB38 9QU

Tel 01340 871522

Email admin.speysidehigh@moray-edunet.gov.uk

Website www.speysidehighschool.net



Our Ref: PG/CC

Date: 4 June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Again and as ever I hope this letter finds you and your families safe and well. We have been fortunate recently with the weather and with this being a holiday weekend and no school on Monday I hope the weather holds.

Senior Phase and SQA

There has been considerable publicity this week around the SQA and various processes. I am confident to say that every colleague and young person at Speyside High School has worked as hard as they can to ensure the process and so qualifications are as good as they can be. Currently we are mopping up a few missed assessments and alerting families to any withdrawals from courses that are having to be made.

We continue to share all assessment grades with young people and so they should all know approximately at this stage (we still have some Quality Assurance processes to undergo) what their grades are going to be. Please if you are not sure about this contact the school as soon as possible and we will be able to provide that information.

I whole heartedly want to thank everyone again for their immense work to get to this stage.

Leavers

Our S6 left last Friday along with some of our S4 and S5s. We wish every one of them a very successful future and please remember if there is anything we can help with we are just a phone call away.

I am delighted to say that practically every young person treated last Friday as a normal school day and behaved in an exemplary manner – thanks to all those leavers who took the time to mark their appreciation to their teachers.

Unfortunately a tiny minority let me down and felt it was appropriate to bring flour and eggs to school – I am not sure why these young people feel this is appropriate at any time but especially during a global pandemic. I must however reiterate that the vast majority marked their last day in an appropriate and kind manner.

New Timetable

Our new timetable started on Tuesday of this week and again I am delighted to say the majority of this went very smoothly. All classes have started with introductory activities and by all accounts in a very hard working and positive manner.

I am very proud of the curriculum developments that have taken place over this year, despite everything to allow even better opportunities for our young people.

The whole of our new senior phase (S4,S5,S6) took part in a two day induction where those that participated gained a SCQF level 4 Mental Health award. More importantly than gaining an award every young person left the course with their own mental health strategy. This will stand them all in good stead as we move into the new session and beyond. Thank you to everyone involved in making this such a success; it was a mammoth effort by all.

Transition/.



Healthy
Respectful
Responsible
Achieving
Ambitious
Dedicated



PATRICIA GOODBRAND BSc(Hons), MEd

Head Teacher

Speyside High School Mary Avenue, Aberlour AB38 9QU

Tel 01340 871522

Email admin.speysidehigh@moray-edunet.gov.uk

Website www.speysidehighschool.net



-2-

Transition

As we are unable to run in school transition activities the virtual activities are picking up pace. Throughout this term activities have been taking place. On Tuesday 8 June our virtual transition day will take place – all primaries have been supplied with an exciting transition pack and are taking the activities forward with their P7s.

Many colleagues are contacting the primaries and providing on line inputs throughout this term. Miss Boyd and I are doing a 'double act' and visiting each primary virtually today, Friday 4 June. We were however very lucky to walk to Aberlour Primary School yesterday to have an outdoor meet with all the P7s there. It was a real joy for both of us to be able to meet with young people in the real world. I am only sorry we cannot do this for all the primaries.

Empathy Day

[Empathy Day LIVE!](#) is an online festival which takes place on Thursday 10 June with videos available afterwards. There will be ten empathy-boosting [Family Activities](#) to do at home, for further information please use the links included.

- Read – use empathy-rich books to deepen your understanding of other people. Join in the massive #ReadForEmpathy social media campaign tagging @EmpathyLabUK.
- Connect – Go on an [Empathy Walk](#) and connect to the reality of your local community.
- Act – Use your increased understanding to help change things. Make an [Empathy Resolution](#).

Finally I hope you all have a good long weekend, and as ever if there is anything you would like to discuss with the school do not hesitate to call us, particularly in regards to senior pupils grades.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Goodbrand
Head Teacher



Healthy
Respectful
Responsible
Achieving
Ambitious
Dedicated