



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

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Dear Parents/Carers

I cannot believe how quickly this term has gone, and the hard work that has gone into it. I really would like to thank everyone for the support and hard work throughout this term and particularly when I was absent for the first 5 weeks. It really shows what a good team we have here and that we should all be proud of being a member of the Speyside High School community.

I am very much looking forward to seeing everyone in red today as we support the Show Racism the Red Card at Speyside High School.

I hope that everyone is able to have a great holiday and enjoy some relaxation and fun with family and friends.

COVID-19

Unfortunately COVID-19 continues to lead what is happening in school. We are hopeful to have some new guidelines for after the holidays and as soon as I have any information I will let you all know.

Can I just ask you to keep reminding your young people that the wearing of face coverings is required (unless exempt) and these should be worn over the nose and mouth.

The one way system has been put in following Scottish Government guidelines, and although I know it is frustrating at times it is a necessary part of maintaining our safety in terms of COVID-19. I thank you in advance for your support with both of these as we go forward.

Vaping

Disappointingly we have become aware of some young people vaping not only on school grounds but in the building. Currently we are unable to identify exactly who this is, but can we again ask you for your support in underling to your young person that this is not permissible.

Vandalism

Sadly I have to report a spate of vandalism including upsetting graffiti in one of the boy's toilets, and hand sanitisers being broke. Again I would ask for your support in helping us resolve these situations and to maintain the good order and running of Speyside High School.

I am aware that these two points will only be relevant to a small population of the Speyside High School Community and apologies for raising it to all other member so of the community who I know maintain the highest of standards at all times at Speyside High School.

Fishing

I wanted to report to you the positive days that some of our S3 young people had fishing on the Spey last week. This was supported by local Fishing groups and the opportunity was great for our young people. All the adults involved in providing this opportunity noted how pleased, respectful and engaged all the young people were in the activities.



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Pupil Senate

Today sees the first Pupil Senate meeting of this session. I would like to thank all those young people who have put themselves forward to be part of this very important group in the school. This will be run by young people and will provide a way for young people's voices being heard in how they feel the school could be improved.

Visitors

I would also like to take this opportunity to let you know about some conversations I and colleagues have had with visitors to the school recently. Every visitor we have had (here on important business which has been COVID-19 sanctioned) has reported how polite respectful and pleasant everyone at SHS has been. I want to say a big thank you everyone for ensuring this is the feedback we get from anyone that visit our school.

SQA

As a school we are very aware of how anxious many young people have been as a result of COVID-19. We are particularly aware of how this is affecting our Senior Phase young people. None of our Senior Phase has sat a 'traditional' SQA exam, and we are looking at different ways in which we can reduce these anxieties. If there is anything in particular you would like to speak to the school about, in regards to this or any concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Finally I would really like to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday and look forward to seeing you all in the new term.

Yours faithfully

Mrs P Goodbrand
Head Teacher



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