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Our Ref: PG/CC

Date: 24 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you all safe and well. I am delighted to be back at school after what was a slightly longer time than I expected. I am now however fully fit and good to go!

I have been so welcomed on my return, it has just underlined to me how lucky I am to be the Head Teacher at Speyside High School.

It has been great to see all the young people again, I am particularly impressed with our new S1's who have settled in very well despite not having a physical transition opportunity. I would like to thank everyone for their support in managing this, this includes young people themselves, other young people who have supported them, parents/carers, and all colleagues at the Speyside High School.

We continue to live with the mitigations that were in place before the summer holidays regarding COVID-19, and these will remain in place until at least the October holidays. I hope that some changes will come from the Scottish Government after then.

The introduction of extended symptoms, to which we must respond to by following our COVID-19 protocol has added further demands. Despite all the ongoing COVID-19 complications almost everyone is facing these with a smile on their face and a can-do attitude.

Extended symptoms:

- General weakness
- Shortness of breath
- Headache
- Runny nose
- Sore throat
- Diarrhoea
- Muscle pain
- Dry productive cough

We have been able to start up some lunchtime clubs and it is great to see young people enjoying some extra-curricular activities again. We plan to hold a club fair very soon, where all the extra-curricular activities will be showcased for young people to join.

I am delighted that Lonach Shaw and Lauren Fotheringham have been elected as Head Students. I must however recognise and thank all other S6 students who stood for election. This is a very brave thing to do and you all displayed integrity and determination in your applications.

Next week we will start the process of appointing class representatives for the Pupil Senate, I would encourage any young person to take part in this, it is an important body that allows us to hear the pupil voice in terms of how the school is run.

Can I/.



**Healthy
Respectful
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Achieving
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Can I take this opportunity just to remind everyone of a couple of points related to the good running of the school:

- The only thing that should be drunk in class is water, there should be no energy drinks etc drunk in class.
- Phones should not be used when walking around corridors, this can cause a Health and Safety issue, and they should only be out in classes under the guidance of teachers. Every class has a clock!

I hope you all have a good weekend and manage to enjoy the hopefully mild weather. Please continue to keep yourselves safe.

Photographs

Please can I let you know that online orders for free delivery of the recent photographs ends on Tuesday 28 September (end of the day). You will still be able to order after this date but will be charged for delivery to your home address.

COVID-19

If your child is displaying any of the original or extended symptoms of COVID-19 please do not send them to school. The advice we have is that if any young person is displaying original or extended symptoms they should be sent home and you need to organise a PCR test, which needs to be negative before they return to school.

Cost of the School Day

Thank you to all parents/carers, young people and staff who took the time to engage with Kirsty Campbell, the Cost of the School Day Practitioner. Kirsty was very complimentary about the school and in particular how polite, open and helpful the young people were. We look forward to receiving Kirsty's report in due course.

Yours faithfully

Mrs P Goodbrand
Head Teacher

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