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Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this letter finds you well and that you will be able to enjoy a relaxing weekend. This term has been as quick as ever and I cannot believe that next week is our last week before the October holidays.

I have attached with this letter a number of items but specifically want to draw your attention to the item Who Can Help Me? This contains a range of contacts to support anyone with worries around money, heating and food. The organisations and options included are very much worth investigating. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if we can help in any way.

School Walk

Last Friday saw our first school walk for a number of years – mainly due to Covid. I can whole heartedly say it was a great success and well done to all the young people who took part and represented themselves and the school in such a positive way. We were lucky with the weather also.

A special thanks to Netherton farm for allowing us access through the farm also.

Parents Evenings

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the S1 drop in and Senior Phase evenings. I hope that your conversations with teachers were helpful and will enable you to further support your young people as they move forward with their studies.

A special thanks to our junior and senior helpers on the night, who I think did a great job in welcoming everyone to the school. It was great to have that buzz again in the school.

Extra-curricular Clubs/Groups

Attached to this newsletter is details of our extra-curricular groups. Thank you to all colleagues and young people who are running these clubs – again it is great to have these up and running again. I would really encourage everyone to take advantage of as many of the clubs as possible.

Climate Week

We were delighted to welcome the Climate Bus to Speyside High School on Monday, the launch day of Climate Week. Colleagues and young people worked with a number of representatives from Moray Council on this. We received very positive feedback from the Moray Council representatives.

'Just want to pass on thanks to the youngsters that participated in the Climate Change Week exercise yesterday. The S2's were superb, the questions well thought out and we had some decent rapport with them. Likewise with seniors whose approach was different but extremely engaging. All in all, from my perspective and from whom I paired up with, a worthwhile exercise. Good bunch of young people'.

Staffing/.



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Respectful
Responsible
Achieving
Ambitious
Dedicated



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- 2 -

Staffing

Many of you will be aware already that Ms Briston our Principal Teacher Art and Design will retire at the end of this term. We are all very sorry to see Ms Briston leave us and thank her hugely for all the very hard work she has put in with our young people over the years, but know that she is moving on to new and exciting things.

Our congratulations go to Ms McPherson who, after competitive interview, was successful in being appointed Principal Teacher of Art and Design and will take up this position after the October holidays.

We are delighted to appoint a new permanent Principal Teacher of History. Miss Bell was successful at interview this week and will join us from Lossiemouth High School on 31 October in this position.

A huge thank you to Mr MacLean who has been Acting Principal Teacher and we wish him well as he returns to his post at Elgin Academy.

PISA

Speyside High School has been selected to be part of an international study about how education in Scotland compares to other countries. This is run by PISA (The Programme for International Student Assessment) who will be conducting the survey on Thursday 27 October. Forty young people have been randomly selected and they and their parents/carers will receive letters with further information next week.

Lost & Found

There have been a number of items handed in to Lost and Found. Can we please encourage parents/carers to ask their young people to check their belongings and contact the office if they have misplaced anything.

Yours faithfully

Mrs P Goodbrand
Head Teacher

Enc. **Extra-Curricular Activities**
Who can help me?



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