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Our Ref: PG/MF

Date: 16 December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this letter finds you safe, well and cosy.

Just as we were getting over Covid and able to look forward to a bit of normality and fun at Christmas, the weather decided to intervene.

The last week has thrown up some challenges in terms of the weather. It is always a difficult decision when to close the school for so many reasons, however the safety of young people and colleagues is always at the centre of this and every decision made. I would like to thank all Parents/Carers, Colleagues and Young People who have been so helpful and understanding over this last week.

Due to the weather also, we have no Christmas tree! If anyone is able to remedy this a tree would be gratefully received.

Christmas Arrangements

Please refer to the table below for upcoming Christmas activities:-

Day		Activity
Monday 19/12	2.00pm – 3.40pm	Junior Party
Monday 19/12	7.00pm – 10.00pm	Senior Party
Tuesday 20/12		Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 20/12	7.00pm	Christmas concert
Thursday 22/12	Morning	Christmas assemblies BGE and Senor Phase

Please note that tickets to the Christmas Concert are still on sale and can be purchased via the School Office. Tickets are £3 per Adult, £2 Concession or a family ticket for £8. This is sure to be an excellent event and we are looking forward to being entertained by our talented young people and colleagues.

Christmas Parties - To allow young people to get ready for the party the following classrooms will be available at lunchtime:

S1	Girls	Room 23
S2	Girls	Room 19
S3	Girls	Room 21
S1	Boys	Room 1
S2	Boys	Room 5
S3	Boys	Room 3

Bags and jackets can also be left there for collection at the end of the party.

YPI Finals/.



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YPI Finals

Today we run our YPI final. This is a great event and I am very much looking forward to judging the young people's presentation. The winner will receive £3000 for their chosen charity.

Senior Phase Prelims

Prelims will run from Friday 13 January to Tuesday 31 January inclusive. These give both the young people, the invigilators and school a chance to ensure everything runs as it should before the final exams that start in April 2023 as well as to allow young people and their teachers to see exactly where they are at this stage. Prelim evidence is often used when something happens that causes a young person to either miss or not perform as well as they could. Therefore it is really important that they prepare as well as they possibly can to ensure evidence reflects their ability.

Prelim timetables will be issued next week and personalised timetables with rooms and seat numbers will be issued at the beginning of next term. Should a young person miss a prelim due to illness or transport/weather difficulties they should not worry, exams will be rescheduled.

Young people in S1 to S3 need to be aware that while prelims are on they need to be considerate. Prelims often take place through break and lunchtime and it is important they can go on without disruption so we will ask them to look out for exam notices and be quiet or do not enter particular areas of the school.

Study Leave will run from Monday 16 January until Friday 27 January. If a young person is in school but does not have an exam they are expected to sign in at the library and study quietly during class times either there or in a classroom should they have made an arrangement with a teacher.

Assemblies

Aberlour Youth Point Moray delivered an assembly today to S3-6 pupils to launch their new service which offers information and support for young people who may be affected by Drugs and Alcohol. S1-2 will receive inputs in PSE in the New Year.

Cairngorm 2030

In January, we will be hosting our second consultation for the Heritage Horizons Cairngorm 2030 project. This major, long-term project aims to put the power to tackle the climate and nature crises into the hands of the people who live and work in the Cairngorms area. Cairngorm 2030 will focus on empowering communities; transport connectivity; restoring landscapes; and improving health and wellbeing. Our consultation event will focus on gathering the views of our S1 to S3 students.

Speyside High is one of a number of secondary schools that border the National Park, who have the privilege to contribute to Cairngorm 2030 initiatives. We are very excited about the potential opportunities for experiential learning, activism, and community engagement. We'll keep you posted as the project develops.

S2 → 3 Course/.



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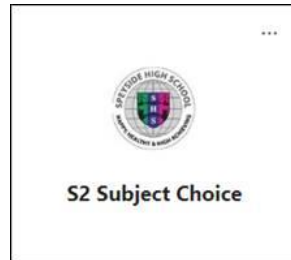
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S2 → 3 Course Choice

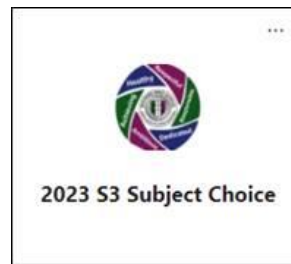
S2 Young People and their families are invited to join an online meeting regarding course choice at 6pm on Tuesday 10 January. This will take place virtually and can be accessed via the Microsoft Team.



All course choice information will be posted on this team though paper booklets will be available on request.

S3 → S4 Course Choice

S3 Young People and their families are invited to join an online meeting regarding course choice at 7:15pm on Tuesday 10 January. This will take place virtually and can be accessed via the Microsoft Team.



All course choice information will be posted on this team though paper booklets will be available on request.

Co Op Local Community Fund

A big thank you to all Parents/Carers/Young People who have chosen our breakfast club as their local charity to support. So far we have raised over £50 towards the breakfast club which is wonderful. For every pound spent by Co op members who have chosen to support us, the Co op will donate 2p to our fund which is running in both Dufftown and Aberlour stores. If you haven't already signed up to support us, please click on the following link to help us. <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/74649> Many thanks for your help in continuing to enable us to offer such a vital service for many of our young people throughout the cost of living crisis.

Yours faithfully

Mrs P Goodbrand
 Head Teacher



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