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Our Ref: PG/MF

Date: 01 December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I cannot believe we are already in December, but the temperature certainly reflects the official start of Winter. I am aware lots of Christmas fairs and activities are on this weekend so I hope the weather stays dry for folks to enjoy them.

Back to the Future School Day

This week we welcomed 11 parents/carers who participated in the S1 Back to the Future School Day, attending Science, Art, HE, English, Modern Languages and Maths lessons as well as experiencing the delicious food from the canteen. The day provided an opportunity for parents/carers to experience a day in the life of their young person at Speyside High School and also have discussions with Mrs Goodbrand regarding the schools vision and values. The feedback received was overwhelmingly positive and we look forward to further opportunities where parents/carers can take an active role in school activities in the future.

Toilet Vandalism

Unfortunately we continue to experience vandalism, particularly in our boy's toilets. This is so disappointing and I know causes concerns for many of our younger students in relation to using the toilets. We are investigating ways of improving the safety without reducing the privacy in the boy's toilets.

One of our options is to remove the outer door of the whole toilet onto the corridor, but to redesign the cubicles to ensure complete privacy. We will be in touch further as we move forward with these plans.

MockCop

On Monday, we attended the MockCOP28 at Highland Council Chambers in Inverness. Twelve schools from across Northern Scotland were represented, in this role-play scenario. Our team of senior students represented the USA and members of our Model UN Club did a surprise protest! This was an amazing opportunity for our teams to build their skills and experiences. We are so proud of our young change-makers!

A huge thank you to the organising teams from Open University, DYW Highland, and Highland One World.

Inter-House Merit Competition

I was delighted to see our Inter-House Merit Competition has had an update this week with the installation of a display cabinet in the reception area. Every merit awarded to young people since the start of session in August has been recognised by a counter in their house colours and placed in the cabinet. The totals at the end of the day on Wednesday 29 November are: Fiddich 1117; Livet 1095 and Rinnes 1206. It is always a very close competition and I am very much looking forward to seeing how the totals are when the next update takes place on Monday 11 December.

For information merits are awarded to young people by their class teachers in the following categories: Effort; Achievement and Attitude.

S3-6/.



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S3-6 Careers Fair

We are planning to run a careers fair on the morning of Monday 5 February 2024. This gives young people the opportunity to speak to employers and find out about routes into employment and gain a direct insight into working in the industry. We have previously delivered this only to young people however have recently considered whether parents/carers would be interested in attending too. If you would like to come in for this, please pass on your interest via email to Mrs Duffy so that we can gauge numbers and decide whether it is a viable option. Furthermore, if there are any parents/carers who would be willing to come into school and talk about their sector/employer during this event, we would be delighted to welcome you in. Please pass any offers of either attending or representing a sector/business onto helen.duffy@moray-edunet.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully

Mrs P Goodbrand
Head Teacher



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