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Dear Parent/Carer

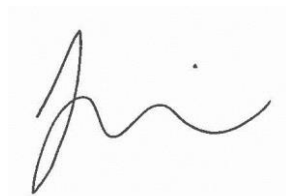
I am pleased to confirm that learners have had a calm but exciting week in the run up to the Christmas holidays. It was a pleasure, through assemblies, to confirm my values, hopes and expectations for Inverurie pupils. We took the opportunity to discuss the resilience of some famous people such as Darren Clarke, Kylie Minogue and J K Rowling. When comparing the two tennis stars, Andy and Jamie Murray, I emphasised the point that "Hard Work Beats Talent When Talent Doesn't Work Hard". In summing up, I confirmed it was my job to raise aspirations and challenge all students and in particular senior students as they work to realise their potential in the SQA exams.

Highlights this week include: Anya's swimming accolades, Dillon speaking up at S4 assembly, S1 pupils having heard of Portgordon, Mitchell winning the Citizen of the Year Award, P7s taking over the Rector's Office, the Christmas Concert rehearsals, S6 'working' in the common room and my first informal meeting with the Parent Council. There are of course many more and well done to all pupils who experienced a personal achievement this week.

On a final note, the focus of young people at special assemblies with PC McLennan was commendable and I thank all Year Groups for their mature and focused manner.

As we approach the festive holiday, our local chaplain, Reverend Groves summed up Christmas perfectly when he said that "times change but feelings stay the same". On that thought, I would like to wish all our pupils, parents and partner agencies an enjoyable holiday and happy New Year.

Yours faithfully



Mr Graeme Cowie  
Acting Rector