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Dear Parent/Carer

### Acting Rector's Weekly Update 3-3-16

As we March forward to the start of Spring, it was surprising to see such an isolated and heavy snowfall on Wednesday. Typically, at the end of the day, the timing of the whiteout caused some anxiety but this soon subsided and became much safer to travel at 3.50 pm. The snowballing on the pitches was good fun but I banned this beside the busses to ensure no unnecessary distractions for the drivers.

In assemblies this week, Year Heads had been focussing on maintaining high standards. Uniform in classes, chewing gum, litter, use of mobile phones and tackling low level disruptions are key themes that help maintain the good order and ethos of the school.

Reflecting on another busy week, it was really pleasing to see so many P7 parents on Thursday night. As we start the transition process in earnest, an overview of academy life was shared and the structure of the curriculum discussed. Most importantly, a clear message that the SLT are accessible and our goal to provide the very best service for parents and learners was confirmed. Highlights this week include hearing from Audrey in JG Ross the Baker. She had wonderful things to 'sing' about her lunchtime pupils and that they exchange Christmas cards – excellent community spirit. I am always talking about the potential in Inverurie Academy and for those parents who attended the YPI finally on Tuesday, it was clear for all to say. A massive thank you goes to Miss Gollop and well done to Kirsty H, Abby M and Blair M who won £3000 for local charity, Charlie House.

Next week we will be holding our Mock election and on Thursday there will be a Careers Evening for pupils and parents. Seniors will be leading House Assemblies and S3 will continue to work on their learning profiles.

On one final personal note, pupils are accustomed to hearing my mantra "It's a teenager's job to make mistakes but I expect them to take responsibility for them and learn from them". Well, I'll hold my hands up and admit that this week I forgot my parents' anniversary but I'll endeavour to remember next year!

To all of our parents/carers, have a very enjoyable weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Graeme Cowie  
Acting Rector

**Maria Walker, Director of Education and Children's Services**

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