



**Ian Parkin**  
Acting Rector  
Inverurie Academy  
Jackson Street  
Inverurie AB51 3PX  
Tel. 01467 621655  
Fax 01467 624425  
inverurie.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **RE: Head Teacher's Newsletter**

The school session has begun very positively with classes settling well and the focus on learning strongly established. Inevitably perhaps, this has coincided with the best weather of the summer!

When visiting classes I have been very impressed with the work being done and similarly, when visiting the school this week Mr Vincent Docherty (Head of Service for Secondary Education in Aberdeenshire) commented very positively on the atmosphere in classrooms and the quality of learning being undertaken. Additionally, whilst on his visit Mr Docherty confirmed that he will provide an update regarding the Head Teacher of the school as soon as he can, but at this time my current role continues.

### **Driving Ambition**

This week saw S6 students participating in a range of workshops and activities designed to increase awareness of the key safety aspects surrounding learning to drive. It is vital the messages relayed are taken on-board and help to shape responsible attitudes towards road safety. Thanks to Mrs Fraser for organising this.

### **School Business Links**

Last session, good progress was made in terms of establishing new links between the school and local businesses. I am very keen that this continues and to support this a very helpful link with the Bank of Scotland was confirmed this week. Mr Alex Drummond (North of Scotland Director of the Bank of Scotland) visited the school and will be working with us to extend business links into the local community. In a related matter, if you feel that your business could offer a successful link with the school, please do contact me to discuss the possibilities.

### **Welcome to Scotland / bienvenue à l'ecosse**

On Thursday a group of our pupils performed a range of Scottish musical items at an Inverurie Community event hosted by Provost Vernal. It was wonderful that the school could take part in this event which extended a formal welcome to Aberdeenshire to our local Syrian New Scots families. Similarly, when representatives of the French town Bagnères de Bigorre visited the school last week they too were entertained by our musicians. The school is keen to support the wider community commitment to see a formal twinning between Inverurie and Bagnères. Well done to all, and thanks to Mrs Campbell for organising.

### **Twitter Comes to Inverurie Academy**

To support on-going communication with parents and carers the school now has its own Twitter account. This will be used to pass on a range of aspects of school life and you are invited to engage with us @InverurieAcad. Thank you to Ms Lynch for setting this up.

### **Engagement with Parents**

In the near future the Parent Council will be confirming the details of this year's Parent Council AGM. I hope you will be able to attend this event and additionally that you will support the school through engagement in a range of contribution exercises. During the session such consultations will include school uniform, the use of technology in classrooms and a key focus on the school improvement plan. Your involvement in these and other issues is vital and much-appreciated. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Ian Parkin  
**Acting Head Teacher**