



1st April 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of another term full of so many successes, I wanted to take time to recognise everyone's continuing efforts and support, in spite of the many challenges facing us all at this time.

Under the Test and Protect Transition, the school's asymptomatic testing programme will end at the end of this term. In the new term (from 18th April) staff and secondary pupils in mainstream schools will no longer be advised to test weekly and will no longer be offered LFD test kits. In addition to this, on Wednesday 30th March the First Minister announced that the remaining requirement to wear face coverings in schools (where they still exist) are to be moved to guidance. From the 18th April the school will no longer be providing face coverings, however if any young person or staff member wishes to wear a face covering, they will be fully supported in doing so.

I have been asked by the CAMHS Early Intervention Team to share a fantastic new, free resource that is available to all people living in Grampian. This free online resource supports parents/carers of anxious children/teens. Parents and carers can work through CBT modules, at their own pace and learn strategies to support their young person. Go to <http://cypgrampian.sliverclohdhealth.com/signup/> Access Code: Grampian .

We had a very successful "World Book Day" on the 2nd March with young people celebrating the books they enjoy reading. Can I please ask that you all check at home for any overdue library books and return these to the library, remembering that if you have not finished the book, it can be reissued.

All of our football teams are involved in local Aberdeenshire fixtures and, in the case of Under 13's and 14's, remain unbeaten in League and Cup fixtures. Both top their respective leagues and are through to the semi-finals of their cup competitions. The Under 13 team will play Peterhead at home whilst the Under 14 team will travel to Banff. The Under 15 team are also still involved in the Cup and will meet Mackie for a place in the semi-final. The Senior Boys team have had mixed results. The Senior Girls team had an excellent victory at Banff Academy and have progressed to the final of the Aberdeenshire Cup. Congratulations and thank you for your efforts to all players and coaches in the different age groups. It is hoped that next term will bring more success on the football field.

Special mention to S5 pupil Diona Rae who was selected to take part in a Scottish Country Dancing demonstration before the Scotland v France 6 Nations International on Saturday 26th February at Murrayfield Stadium. Diona was one of eighty dancers selected from Scotland, Wales, Ireland, and England.

We had teams in both the SSA Alpine Ski Series and the Grampian Schools Cross County Championships with our pupils performing very well in both.



Our Business and Information Technology Faculty are now offering a number of new clubs including Lego club on a Wednesday during lunchtime. The faculty plans to participate in Aberdeenshire Game Con, a coding competition starting in June. On Tuesday 19th April one of our former pupils, Samantha Giles from RightStart is coming into School to speak about the 'bright start' Scheme to a Higher Accounts Class.

We were delighted to award a number of certificates and prizes for pupils who took part in The Gordon Art Exhibition of Showcase Schools, Competition 2022. Well done to all!

We are delighted that our Charities Committee has organised a Ukraine Crisis Appeal on Friday 1st April which is a Come as You Please Day with a blue and yellow theme.

- Monday 18th April – First day of New Term
- Monday 25th April – SQA Study Leave begins (S4-S6)
- Tuesday 26th April – SQA Examination Timetable begins
- Wednesday 25th May – Parent Council Meeting
- Wednesday 25th May – Sports Day
- Wednesday 5th June – SQA Examination Timetable Ends
- Thursday 2nd June – May Day Holiday (moved)
- Friday 3rd June – Queens Platinum Jubilee Holiday
- Monday 6th June – Local Holiday
- Tuesday 7th June – Senior Students return, change of timetable
- Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th June – P7 Transition Days (in School)
- Thursday 16th June – P7 Parents/Carers Information evening
- Thursday 23rd June – Awards Ceremony
- Friday 1st July – last day of term

Thank you to our amazing Academy Star editorial team for their work in producing our Easter Edition which is attached for you all to enjoy.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a relaxing Easter Holiday and I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 18th April.

Yours Sincerely

Mr N Hendry
Head Teacher