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Ref: NH/SH

1st July 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

As we come to end of this academic year, it is time to bring session 21/22 to a close. This year has been full of changes at Inverurie Academy with Mr Jones leaving in November 2021 and Ms Lynch in January 2022. It has also been a year when Covid-19 continued to be part of our daily lives but we have been allowed to remove all mitigations as we move forward to the new normal. These have thankfully included a whole school year with no lockdowns and a full SQA examination diet.

It is time to say goodbye and thank you to some of our staff. Mr Blease (PSA) and Ms Wood (PSA) are leaving us for further study and we wish them every success in the future. We also wish a happy retirement to Mrs Laurenson (PSW).

Ms Mucke (Modern Languages) is leaving us to take up a post out with Aberdeenshire. Mrs Skelly (English) is leaving us to work in Aberdeen City. Following a very successful probation year, Mrs McCallum has also secured a post in Aberdeen City.

Mrs Clayton is leaving the school office team after 19 years at the Academy. Mrs Clayton will be missed by all at the school. On behalf of our school community, I wish her a long and healthy retirement.

We also say goodbye to Miss Berry, our SDS Careers Advisor who retires after 24 years. I would like to thank Miss Berry for both her commitment and drive during her time at Inverurie and wish her a long and healthy retirement.

Finally, we say goodbye to Mr Watkinson who retires today. Mr Watkinson has spent his entire teaching career at Inverurie Academy. He originally joined as a Maths probationer 29 years ago, he then became a permanent teacher, then secured the post of Assistant Principal Teacher of Maths before becoming Principal Teacher of Maths. Mr Watkinson has always been a very active member of Team Inverurie. He has been a driving force behind school football, having coached many successful league and cup winning teams over the years. He has also always supported new staff to run school teams. I would like to thank Mr Watkinson for all he has done for the school over the years and on behalf of our school community, I wish him a long and healthy retirement.

Joining us in August we have four new probationer teachers, Miss Rachel Hine (English), Miss Alexandra McNicol (German), Mr Joel Simpson (English) and Miss Chloe Stephen (Modern Studies). Also joining us in August are Mrs Mercedes Ugbe (Chemistry), Mr James Mathews (PE) and a belated welcome to Mr Neil Benzie (Physics) who joined us at the beginning of June.

We also welcome Mrs Kelly who will take up the post of Principal Teacher of Maths and Mrs Campbell who will be 0.2fte (one day a week) as Principal Teacher Guidance (Davah House – Monday). Welcome back to Mrs Taylor, Principal Teacher of Guidance (Selbie House Thursday-Friday) and Mrs Ramalho (Technical) from their maternity leave.

Over the last two weeks, Year Heads have been hosting assemblies and have been going over school expectations for next session. Following two years when school uniform has been a challenge, we are pleased to be able to get back into school uniform. I would like to thank everyone for their support in ensuring your young person comes to school in the correct uniform. Details of which can be found below:

Uniform Expectations at Inverurie Academy

The School Uniform at Inverurie Academy reflects our Core Values of Ambition, Inclusion, Integrity and Respect.

This uniform takes a more important place in the new Community Campus as every Campus user must identify themselves through the wearing of a lanyard or a uniform.

Compulsory Blue Blazer
White Shirt and School Tie
Optional Grey or Black V-Neck Jumper or Cardigan (tie must be visible)
Black Trousers, thick black leggings (no sports brands) or Skirt (School-type shorts are an acceptable option)
Black Shoes or all-black Trainers

Blazers and Ties can be purchased from: <https://www.stevensons.co.uk/>



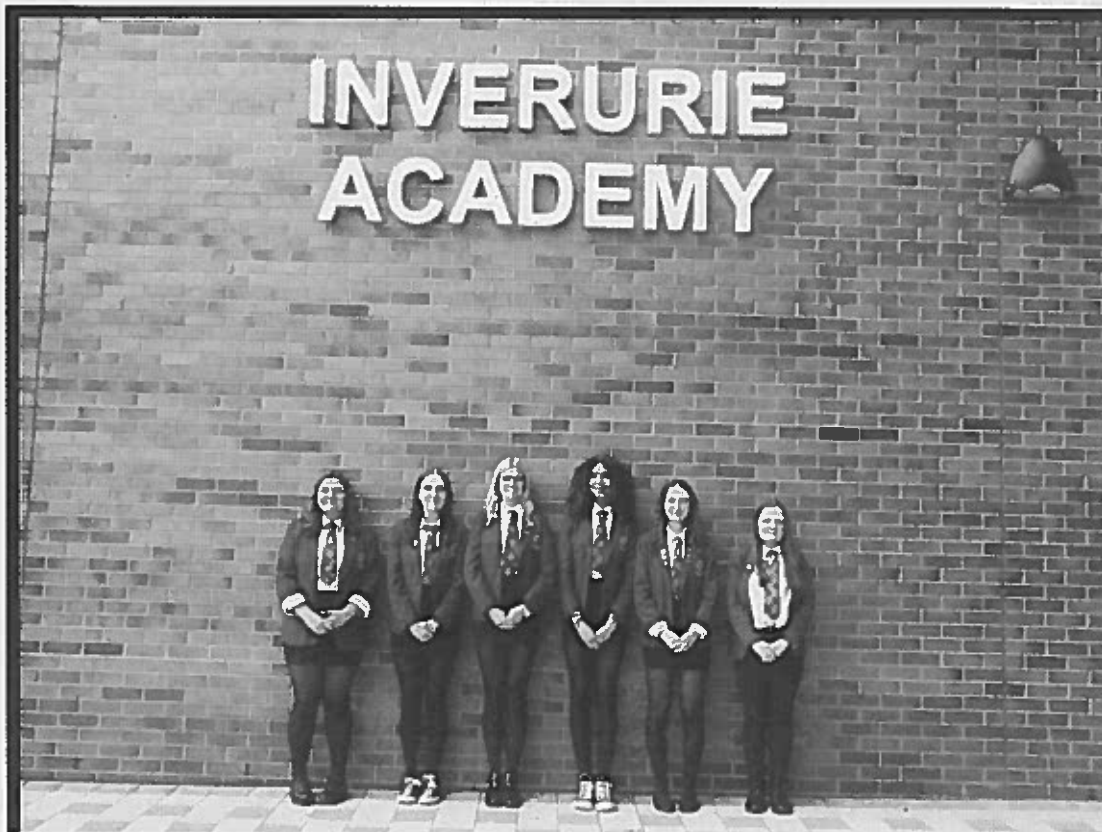
Information on eligibility and how to apply for a Uniform grant can be found here:

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/assistance/school-clothing-grants/>

Following a very rigorous recruitment process, I am delighted to announce our 2022-23 School Captains and House Captains. I am sure you will all join me in congratulating them on their appointment and wishing them every success in the coming academic year. The captains are:

SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Chloe Barber
Annalie Davidson
Madison Hart
Zoe MacKenzie
Dionne Rae
Chloe Ross



HOUSE/SPORTS CAPTAINS (in order to support one of our improvement priorities on raising house identity, those who applied for Sports Captain have been appointed House Sports Captains and will have a sports remit to their role)

BARRA

Ellie Blackaby
Madison Brooks (S5)
Lucy Wilson

CRICHIE

Declan Douglas
Anna Fleming
Albany Hosie

Laurence Findlay, Director of Education & Children's Services
Serving Aberdeenshire from mountain to sea - the very best of Scotland

DAVAH

Niamh Cruickshank
Eilidh McIntosh
Caleb Scott

HARLAW

Millie Crook
Rhona Fraser (S5)
Dean Leslie

SELBIE

Leah Bergin
Alyssa Bruce
Daniel Roberts-Haritonov

THAINSTONE

Meg Barnett (S5)
Lily Davies
Megan McKellican

This year over 100 pupils have represented the school football team. A tremendous achievement in itself with all students and staff enjoying the experience. Our senior girls made it to the Aberdeenshire Cup Final where they were beaten by a strong Alford team. They did however win the Senior Girls League. The Junior Girls Team also enjoyed an excellent win in their only game of the season.

Our Senior Boys had a mixed season, losing in the Semi Final of the Cup. Our S3 Boys unfortunately lost in the Cup Final but had some good league victories. The S2 Boys went unbeaten for most of the season including a good run in the Scottish Cup, they recently lost the League playoff. Finally, our S1 Boys had a good run in the Scottish Cup and won 3-0 against Kemnay Academy which capped off a good season. All the coaches would like to thank everyone for their support this season.

During this term our Learning, Teaching and Assessment working group have been working to establish a Promoting Positive Relationships Policy. This work has included rounds of student consultation to help inform the work of the group. The policy will be introduced in August and further details will be shared at the start of the new term.

Can I ask you all to remind your young person that it is crucial they use the paths provided when arriving on the school campus, including when arriving and departing on school buses. Also, at a recent Parent Council meeting, concerns were raised about our young people not always using the seat belts provide on the school buses, can I again ask for your support with this.

Over the last two weeks we have been recognising the success of so many students by presenting S1-S6 subject and whole school awards. Well done to all who have received a certificate. Planning is already underway to "go large" in June 2023 with a whole school Awards Ceremony celebrating all of the many successes of the Academy.

Please find below a link to support resources for young people and their families over the summer holidays.

[Resources to support young people over the summer holidays | \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](https://glowscotland.org.uk)

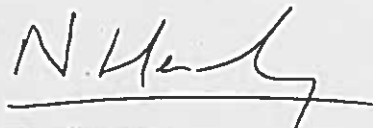
School will begin on Tuesday 23rd August 2022, listed below is a link to our 2022-23 Calendar and also key dates for next term:

[Parents-Calendar-2022-2023-.xlsx \(live.com\)](#)

Tuesday 23 rd August -	First day of new term
Wednesday 7 th September -	Activity Fair
Wednesday 14 th September -	Parent Council Meeting (AGM)
Tuesday 27 th September -	S4/5/6 Tracking Reports issued
Tuesday 11 th October -	S1/2/3 Tracking Reports issued

Finally, I would just like to thank you all for the welcome I have received since arriving in February and I am looking forward to working with you all to ensure we continue to strive to achieve the school values of ambition, inclusion, integrity and respect in all that we do. On behalf of all the school staff, can I wish you all a great summer break and I look forward to welcoming our young people back on Tuesday 23 August 2022.

Yours Sincerely



Mr N Hendry
Head Teacher



