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Ref: NH/SH

13th October 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

As we come to the end of a very successful first term, I would like to update you on several matters. You will also find attached a copy of our Academy Star (Autumn Edition) newspaper.

We say goodbye and thank you to Mr Littler who retires today. Mr Littler joined the school initially as a member of the ASL team but was appointed to Principal Teacher of Guidance in April 2015. During this time his commitment and drive to get it right for every young person has been at the heart of everything he has done. I am sure you would want to join me in wishing Mr Littler a happy and healthy retirement.

We also say goodbye to Mr Benzie (Physics) who is moving on to a new post.

Since August we have had a number of staff join the Academy. Mrs Anderson (ASL), Mr Warrender (English), Mrs Batsford (Art & Design), Mr Challab (Maths) and Mrs Hutchison (PSA). We are also delighted to welcome back Mrs Gibson (Geography).

After the October break Mrs Campbell will start with us in the role of Principal Teacher, Faculty of Creative Arts.

Congratulations to Miss Campbell who was appointed to full time Principal Teacher Guidance for Barra House. Miss Campbell will take up this post on Monday 30th October.

Congratulations also to Miss Crabb, who has been appointed Acting PT Guidance for Davah House one day a week (Monday).

Can I remind you that school staff cannot always respond immediately to correspondence (email or phone). Please explain to office staff the reason for your call as not everything needs to go through the Guidance Teacher, many issues can be passed on to relevant staff by the office team. A link to our Communication Policy can be found below:

<https://inverurie.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/communication-policy/>

Can you please remind your young person if they are unwell, that they should speak to the school office in the first instance, who will liaise with home and/or First Aid if required. If students contact home direct, we ask that parents/carers make contact with the school office if necessary to discuss/arrange collection/sign out.

Can I please ask for your support to ensure your young person arrives for PE lesson with the correct kit. Details of which are below:

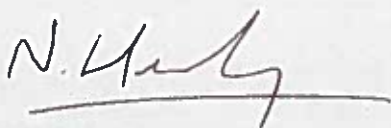
- *Pupils are expected to arrive in school wearing school uniform, regardless of whether they have PE that day or not.*
- *Pupils are expected to have a full change of clothing and footwear for PE, including shorts/joggers, t-shirt/top and footwear appropriate to the activity. If pupils are swimming, they will require swimwear and a towel.*
- *Pupils are expected to change back into full school uniform before they leave the PE Department. The only exception to this is when they have PE at the end of the day (period 7 on Monday/Tuesday, or period 6 on other days). In this case they may leave school in their PE kit should they wish to do so*

Key Dates

Monday 30 th October	Start of new Term
Wednesday 8 th November	S5/6 Parents Evening 4.30pm – 7.00pm
Monday 13 th November	Parent Council
Wednesday 15 th November	Sponsored Afternoon
Thursday 16 th November	In-Service Day
Friday 17 th November	In-Service Day
Sunday 3 rd December	Evening Express Carol Concert
Monday 4 th December	S1 Parents Evening 4.30pm – 7.00pm
Thursday 14 th December	S4 Parents Evening 4.30pm – 7.00pm
Monday 18 th December	Christmas Concert
Friday 22 nd December	Last day of Term

Finally, I wish you all a relaxing break and I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 30th October as we move towards Christmas 2023.

Yours sincerely



Mr N Hendry
Head Teacher