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Acting Head Teacher
Mr D Owen

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Dear Parent / Carer

As you are aware we have now completed the prelim assessments process for S4/5/6. We have been very impressed by how learners have conducted themselves over the last 2 weeks. Results information will be communicated to you within the next few weeks via a Tracking Report, once departments have finalised marking and completed moderation processes. Learners will be given detailed feedback on their performance by their teachers with recommendations for next steps.

Any pupil who has been unable to sit prelims will be given the opportunity to complete assessments in subjects to gather evidence.

The next few weeks and months will be crucial for all young people to ensure that they are ready for the final examinations in May. Staff will be working very hard with learners to complete coursework and help learners with revision and study planning. After school Supported Study sessions will be offered after the February mid-term break to give additional targeted support to learners.

At this time, it is vital that attendance and time-keeping is maintained throughout the term to give all learners the best chance of success. In some departments coursework or practical assessments will be submitted or take place before the end of March, therefore it is important that young people maximise their attendance this term.

At this point in the year we are also planning for next session, with the Subject Choice/Options process for S4 and S5 learners taking place next month. There are various resources that have been uploaded to our school website and are also available via the S4 and S5 Year Group Teams which pupils can access, including:

- S5/6 Options form
- Senior Phase Subject Information Pathways booklet
- Skills Development Scotland resources and useful links to informative websites such as www.myworldofwork.com and www.focuspoint.com

I would encourage you to look at these and to have a conversation with your child regarding choosing the most relevant subjects for their future using the resources available to them, in particular our Senior Phase Subject Information Pathways booklet. Pastoral Care teachers will arrange individual meetings with pupils to discuss their option choices to ensure that each pupil is offered the correct support and guidance in this process. Young people are also able to seek advice from our SDS Careers Advisers, George and Stephen, based here in school. Once pupils have made their choices, Options forms will be sent home for parents to confirm these choices.

The Senior Options process will commence after the February mid-term break. A Parent Information Evening will be held online via Microsoft Teams at that point to give more information to parents/carers – details will be communicated nearer to the time.

An Assembly was held this morning with S4 and S5 to share the information contained in this letter and also to reinforce our expectations and standards of timekeeping and uniform. Please note that late-coming is being monitored and you will be informed if your child is persistently late to school or classes. Young people are expected to wear our full school uniform which includes a blazer and all black shoes. Coloured jumpers/hooded tops and jackets should be removed inside the building.

I would like to thank you for your continued support and cooperation. If you would like to discuss anything relating to your child's progress, please contact your child's Pupil Support teacher.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Lynch
Acting Depute Head Teacher (S4/5)