

Parent Update

12 February 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

Just as I thought 2021 couldn't through any more challenges our way, we had this week's snow and freezing temperatures to deal with. Whilst driving in it was a bit hair raising at times, I was delighted to see so many of our students making the most of it and taking the chance to enjoy some time outdoors to build snowmen and go sledging. The Heads of House were particularly pleased with how creative students were in taking up the challenge of building a snowman with their House colours and shared lots of great photos with the rest of the staff.

Phased Return of Senior Phase Students

At the moment I am still awaiting the further guidance from Scottish Government around the phased return of senior phase students to complete practical assessments but I am told that it will arrive today. Given that we have the three days holiday next week, I will ensure I get information to you and our students as soon as possible after this.

Reports & Parents' Evenings

S2 reports were issued this week and again my thanks go to those of you who have been able to provide us with feedback on these. The S2 parents' evening next week (Thursday 18th) will again be virtual and will give you the opportunity to have a discussion with your child's teachers on any aspects of the report. We will issue a confirmed date for the rescheduled S1 parents evening towards the end of this month.

Course Choice

The S6 leadership team are offering a Q and A session for S4 and S5 students around careers and course choice. Students in S6 will be leading these sessions beginning next week and have divided themselves into groups relating to what faculty best links to what they have applied for upon leaving school. As with most of our learning at the moment, the sessions will take place via Teams and links sent out to students.

Please ensure that all course choice forms are submitted by Friday 19th February.

Staffing

Today we are bidding a fond farewell to Mrs Blackburn from Computing and Mrs Murray from English as they take up new posts in other parts of the country. All of us at Deans thank them for the work they have done with our students and wish them well in their new posts.

Please remember that Mon – Wed of next week are a school holiday and there will be no online lessons on those days. I hope that you and your families remain safe and well.

Pauline Allison
Head Teacher

Reminder of Covid 19 Protocols

As you are aware, with the return of our pupils and staff to school, we have put procedures in to place that support all members of the school community if anyone displays symptoms of Covid 19.

A reminder that the symptoms are:

- High temperature or fever
- A new continuous cough
- A loss of, or change in sense of smell or taste

If a pupil displays symptoms, we will contact you to collect your child (please ensure that we have your most up to date contact details). **Pupils over the age of 16 may return home themselves.** The pupil should, if possible, wear a face covering en route and avoid public transport.

You will be asked to follow Test and Protect and we will provide you with a copy of the Test and Protect Leaflet and Step by Step Guide when your child is collected.

Information on the groups of children within the school, **and on school transport**, and the adults that each group of children come in to contact with will be collected. This is to fulfil legal responsibilities for public health and will allow Test and Protect to contact appropriate people in the event of a positive test result.

If anyone within your household tests positive for Covid 19, please do not send your child to school. Report their absence and the reason for this by calling PSA in the morning.