People Directorate

Head Teacher: Mr George Docherty

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Our Ref: Your Ref:
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Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you are your families are well and staying positive during these difficult times.

As you will know, the Scottish Government have announced that schools would be returning on Tuesday 11th August with pupils attending part-time. This 'blended learning' approach will combine technology and online learning with face-to-face in-school learning to allow social distancing regulations to be followed. More information can be found in the Education Recovery Group's Strategic Framework for Reopening Schools. We will be working closely with the local authority and parents to plan what this will look like. We would appreciate if you could take the time to complete the South Ayrshire parent/carer survey which can be found at https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3RX2KYM.

SQA

Following SQA guidance, all estimates for this year's National Qualifications have now been submitted. Principal Teachers have been exceptional in leading their department through this difficult process and both parents and young people should be confident that a significant amount of work has gone in to producing and quality assuring estimates. SQA are still aiming for certification on 4 August. In the same way that information recorded by an exam candidate during an exam is exempt from disclosure, the estimates cannot be shared with pupils or parents before the SQA awards are released to candidates.

Home Learning

Staff continue to work hard to provide a wide range of home learning. Some departments are currently delivering online lessons which have had positive feedback from young people and parents. During the in-service day, staff shared practice in the delivery of online learning as we look towards providing more of this type of interactive delivery. For new S2 students, a revised curriculum and suggested timetable was shared with parents on Friday. New S3 classes are also underway and an updated home learning overview for S4-S6 students will be sent to parents/carers later today. Following feedback from parents, this will include department contact details to help ensure that everyone is able to access the relevant resources.

We understand that access to ICT or time to support young people and motivate them will vary from one household to the next, so please don't put too much pressure on yourself or your child to replicate the classroom at home.

As always, sincere thanks for your continued support and your positive messages. Our latest newsletter can be found here https://bit.ly/3co2YHG and please continue to keep up-to-date with life at Marr on Twitter @MarrColOfficial.

Best wishes

George Docherty
Head Teacher