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Head Teacher: Neil Hendry B.Ed (Hons)

February Update

I am writing to give you some updates since the beginning of the year.

Staffing

I am delighted that Miss Matheson (Home Economics) started with us in January, Mrs Pollard joined us on Monday 4th February as our new PT Humanities, Mr Lawrence and Mrs Millar-Weyland will be joining our Targeted Support team and Mr Bennis will be joining Design and Technology soon. Staffing across the city continues to be a challenge however we are working tirelessly to bring new staff to Lochside over the coming months and beyond.

Since the start of term, some staff have moved, they are Mr Matthews (English), who has moved to Glasgow, Mrs Harriet (English) who has resigned her post, Mr McClymont (PT Humanities) who has left to become a teacher at an Aberdeenshire Academy, Mrs Kelly (Modern Studies) and Mrs Ahriz (Maths) who have also left to go to an Aberdeenshire Academy. I wish each one of them success in their new posts.

S4/5/6 SQA Prelims

Our first diet of prelims was successful with pupils arriving on time and behaving very well throughout their exams. This is a crucial time for all our senior pupils and with only 40 school days to the SQA exams, I trust this time is used well by all our young people.

Subject Choice

Thank you to all of you who attended the various subject choice information evening's in school, Guidance Teachers are currently holding individual meetings with pupils to help the young people make the correct choices. Should you require any further advice or help with this, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

S1 Loch Eil

One hundred and fifty-seven S1 pupils travelled up to Loch Eil (Fort William) during the week beginning Monday 4 February for a 3 day outward bound experience. This was an outstanding opportunity for S1 pupils and enabled them to develop new skills and friends to develop the Lochside Academy community.

Uniform

Over the next two weeks we will be holding year group assemblies to remind all pupils that school uniform is a standard expectation at Lochside. We very much appreciate the ongoing support from parents and carers. Can I remind you that pupils should not wear leggings or tracksuit bottoms. Black trousers or a skirt should be worn, and non-school jumpers/hoodies should be removed in class. During the cold weather pupils will be allowed to wear a jumper or jacket in the school canteen. We will be carrying out uniform checks in the coming weeks.

Finally, I am sure you are aware that the school is closed Monday 11th to all and to pupils only on Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th for In-Service.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'N. Hendry', with a long horizontal line underneath it.

N Hendry
Head Teacher