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NH/AJ

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Dear Parent/Carer

As we come to the end of term which has been unlike no other I just wanted to say that it is a privilege being Head Teacher of Lochside Academy and I cannot be more proud of how we have all responded as a school community since Lockdown and the school closing its doors on Friday 20th March.

This morning I spoke to all staff on behalf of the Senior Leadership Team and I told them how proud we are of them and the work they have put in servicing our community during this time. On behalf of the school staff I want to thank all of you who have supported us, through the work you have done at home during this challenging time. We all know it has not been easy. You have stepped up and the staff in the school know that and this has kept us going during these difficult times.

It is time to say goodbye and thank you to some of our staff. Mr Browning PSA and Mr Smith PSA are leaving us to take on new roles and we wish them every success in the future. Mr Girvan and Mr Ruta are both leaving the city and starting new posts in Glasgow after the summer break. Mrs Carlier and Mrs Santacruz are both leaving the Modern Languages faculty.

Mrs Wood is leaving us to take up a post as Principal Teacher of Art and Design at St Margarets. Mrs Wood has been at Kincorth and Lochside for nine years. We wish her every success in her new role. Mr Arbuthnott retires today. He joined Kincorth in 1997, twenty-three years ago, having previously taught at Hazlehead Academy where he actually taught a 12-year-old, tall red-haired future Head Teacher! It is only right that we wish Mr Arbuthnott a happy retirement. However, the good news is that he will still be part of Team Lochside teaching 2 days a week from August 2020.

We also say goodbye to Mr Leslie who is moving to start a Depute Head Teacher post at Bucksburn Academy. Mr Leslie started at Kincorth as PT of Design and Technology in 2015 before moving to Lochside. I would like to thank Mr Leslie for both his commitment and drive during his time at both schools and wish him every success in his new role.

Finally, we say goodbye to Mr Cranna who retires today. Mr Cranna started teaching in 1986 and moved to Torry Academy in 1995 as PT Maths. He then became a DHT before moving to Lochside in August 2018. I would like to thank Mr Cranna for being part of the team that successfully brought both schools together over the last 24 months and, on behalf of our school community, I wish him a long and healthy retirement.

Joining us in August 2020 we have four new probationers, Mr Ayman Jamal Aldeen (Computing), Miss Beth Nicol (Design and Technology), Miss Eilidh Simpson (Art and Design) and Miss Hannah Hall (English). Also joining us in August are Miss Kelsey McNeil (English), Miss Rachel Clark (Business Studies), Mr Woody McIntyre (Science), Mr Kierron Graham (Geography) and Mrs Natasha Munro (PSA).

We are delighted to have four of this years probationers joining the staff on a permanent basis, Miss Ritchie, Miss McCann, Miss Atkinson and Mr Ikpa.

We welcome Mr Irvine who will be our New Faculty Head of Design and Technology from the 10th August.

Finally, congratulations to Miss Stove who has been appointed to Depute Head Teacher, taking over the role left by Mr Cranna. Miss Stove has been PT Target Support at both Kincorth and Lochside and we are delighted she is joining our Senior Leadership Team from August. Miss Rapley will be stepping up to Acting PT Target Support.

During the last week I am sure you will have all been aware of our Virtual Awards Ceremony. It was only right that we took time to celebrate so many of this year's successes and ensure that the pupils of 2019-2020 have their place in our history books. I must thank our Awards Ceremony organising committee who have done so much work to ensure this happened and I hope you all enjoyed our year in pictures.

What do we do now? We get ready for August! We will know during the summer what our return will look like and I ask that you please keep a look out for further information during the holidays?. In the meantime, thank you, enjoy your summer, stay safe and we will see you in August.

Yours sincerely

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

N Hendry
Head Teacher