



Dear Parents/Carers,

So, here we are at last. What a busy and challenging time it has been for everyone but by working together it has also been a really positive time in so many ways. Having young people back in school the last few weeks has certainly been the highlight and we are so looking forward to their return after the holidays.

### Asymptomatic Testing

Please remember that these tests are available for all year groups as well as staff. Students under 16 are required to have a consent form signed. This can be picked up from school or accessed on our website. Tests can be collected from our Welfare Assistant, Mrs Jana MacKinlay, on our return. If your son/daughter is already using the LFD tests then please note that testing should not take place week 1 of the holidays but should resume week 2.

### Positive Case during Holidays

If your son/daughter tests positive for Covid-19 over the holiday period please contact the Council Contact Centre on 0131 200 2000.

### SQA Matters

We have been working hard putting together plans for the Alternative Certification Model (ACM) which replaces SQA Examinations next term. Please note that the majority of these assessments will take place **10 May – 4 June inclusive**. A detailed timetable will be issued week beginning 20 April.

If your son/daughter has been offered Targeted Study Support during the first week of the holidays, we strongly recommend that they take this opportunity. As well as a very good rest to re-charge their batteries, we are also advising our students to devote part of the holiday to catch up and/or revision. Any outstanding work can be accessed on Teams and there is very good advice regarding revision on our website.

### Reminders for our Return

As you know, the Scottish Government has indicated that we will all return after the holidays. Please note that **Tuesday 20 April** is the return date. Please also remember that we will return to different entrances for junior and senior classes (the playground for S1-3 and the main entrance for S4-6).

We will also return to staggered finish times for S1 – 3 as follows:

|    | Monday | Tuesday -<br>Thursday | Friday  |
|----|--------|-----------------------|---------|
| S1 | 3.05pm | 3.15pm                | 12.10pm |
| S2 | 3.10pm | 3.20pm                | 12.15pm |
| S3 | 3.15pm | 3.25pm                | 12.20pm |

Face masks will continue to be worn by all staff and students. Windows will also be open so a warm jumper or sweatshirt is recommended unless summer has arrived by then.

Lastly, to finish, I would just like to thank you all for your support this term. Without this we would never have managed to achieve all that has taken place. Your messages of thanks and support have been really appreciated by staff. I really do believe that as a school community Tynecastle CARES and this has been even more apparent as we have all worked together through these challenging times.

I hope that you and your family have a well-earned rest and we very much look forward to welcoming back refreshed and energised young people next term.

Do, take care, stay connected and, most importantly, stay safe.



Hazel Kinnear  
Head Teacher