

12 August 2011

Dear parents,

We hope very much that you will be able to join us with your son/daughter at the **S6 Parents' Communication Evening**: it is at 6.00 pm on **Monday 22 August** in the New Prep School Hall. This is an event intended to help S6 get the most out of their final year at school. In recent years we have very significantly increased the opportunities for S6 to hold responsibilities and we would like to share these with you and them: they include, for example, the chance to develop their skills by mentoring children in the Prep School, hearing them read and so on, and by offering personal support to Senior School pupils. There will also be a presentation with photos on this year's S6 Lakeside trip, so you will be able to see what happened. Andrew Evans will talk about UCAS and the year ahead, as will other members of staff. There will be the chance for you and your son/daughter to ask any questions you may have about Sixth Year and a glass of wine or fruit juice will be on offer. In addition, Heads of Department and Mr Evans will be available in the Dining Hall on the same evening between 4.30 and 6.00 pm. This is an opportunity for pupils to discuss any changes to their timetables that they may wish to make. We hope that this will enable pupils to have a purposeful start to learning from the very first day of the school year. All S6 should go to the Dining Hall during this session, even if it is simply to confirm with Mr Evans that they are happy with their timetable.

I want to say how absolutely delighted I was at this year's S5 Higher results. So many children worked very hard and I am really pleased that so very many did so well. They gained our best-ever pass rate AND our best A rate and best AB rate. The 60.4% A grades was an exceptional achievement - significantly ahead of any previous year - indeed 8% up on what the previous really strong year group achieved. Well done, last year's S5! I hope that you will carry this focus and impetus on into Advanced Highers or whatever new Highers you choose so that you make the very most of S6.

In S6 at Advanced Higher we again had our best-ever pass rate and our highest-ever A grade rate. Two young people clocked up a record-breaking 11 Advanced Highers between them, all at A grade: congratulations, Jason Long and Alice Ahn!

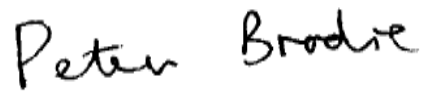
At Standard Grade, we were particularly pleased to achieve our best-ever Credit pass rate and grade 1 rate for Standard Grade English taken in S3.

Parents are also most welcome to attend this year's **Dallachy Lecture** at 7.00 pm on Thursday 8 September in the Cargill Hall, at which we expect all S6 to be present. The speaker is actress Blythe Duff, who is particularly known for her work in *Taggart*.

All S6 wear a small strip of braid on their blazer lapel. All those who accepted the responsibilities of being a Prefect and who have returned a signed Prefect Agreement should also wear braid along the top of their blazer breast pocket. Man's World in Byres Road are experts in ensuring that blazers are as they should be.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Brodie". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of "Peter" and "Brodie" being capitalized and prominent.

Peter Brodie