



## St. Ninian's HIGH SCHOOL

Scoil Ard Noo Ninian

12<sup>th</sup> December 2023

LOWER SCHOOL (Years 7 – 9)

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HEAD TEACHER Mr C. J. Coole

Dear Parent/Guardian

### Re: Year 11 - End of Autumn Term

The Christmas break is fast approaching.

Year 11 have had a very busy term learning crucial course content; meeting coursework deadlines; and preparing for, and sitting, their mock examinations. In addition, students have been considering their post-16 pathway; visiting UCM; participating in drop-down days and completing activities relating to lifelong career skills. They have been a real credit to themselves and a pleasure to deal with, staff are regularly commenting on their positive attitude and effort.

I am in no doubt students are very tired.

The New Year will bring further challenges and students will need to continue to apply themselves fully. The results of the mock examinations and our final Forecast Grades will need to be digested. The pastoral team will be working with individual students to review if they are on track to access the post-16 pathway they wish to follow. Support and intervention strategies will be put in place for those students who require additional help and motivation. The Spring term will also bring Parents Evening on 11<sup>th</sup> January, Mock interviews on 25<sup>th</sup> January (please note the deadline for applications for this opportunity is Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December) and Sixth Form Options evening on the 8<sup>th</sup> February. There are also information events relating to post 16 courses at the UCM (please see their web site for details).

The upcoming Christmas break will be welcomed by students. It is important that they de-stress, unwind and relax as much as possible. Many students will put themselves under pressure and may well try to work hard through the break with the aim of “getting ahead”, “maintaining momentum”, or “catching up”. This is admirable but needs to be tempered, with the need for a rest in readiness for a challenging term ahead. As parents you will know what is best for your child and what approach should be taken over the two week holiday.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child, their courses or any upcoming assessments please do not hesitate to contact the pastoral team.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family all the very best for the holiday period and 2024.

Yours faithfully

Mr T N Smith  
Deputy Head Teacher

*Live to Learn*  
*Learn to Live*