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Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of the 6th week of working from home, I wanted to update you on our approaches to learning and some additional information important to groups of pupils and staff.

All staff across the Campus are extremely grateful for the support shown by parents during this difficult time. As many of our staff are parents themselves working from home while home schooling their own children, it is lovely to get messages of appreciation from parents.

Our BGE Learning Zones through Show My Homework have seen a fantastic uptake, with class teachers of all subject areas delighted to receive submissions and offer feedback. Staff are very aware that there must be a balance between school work and down time for their pupils so fully understand if pupils may be unable to begin or complete certain tasks. There are a variety of learning activities available including virtual lessons, online resources and content driven worksheets. Moving forward, your child's class teachers will continue to update activities via Show My Homework to support their learning. Further information will be issued before the timetable changes later in May.

Our Senior Phase pupils may have found our current situation the most challenging in some ways as in the midst of the final push for coursework and exam preparation, everything stopped as they knew it. Although we are currently working our way through our option choice data, staffing and class structures for next session, we know that many of our current S4 and S5 pupils will gain more of a focus with the opportunity to look at some of the skills and content required in the subjects and courses they have shown an interest in continuing with next session, or, indeed, selecting for the first time. With this in mind, staff have devised materials and resources to support our Senior Phase pupils in all subject areas. A summary of the content can be found on our school website, with links to Google Classroom codes available via their Show My Homework PSE classes.

In terms of SQA, North Ayrshire issued a statement to all Parents on the 22nd April that provided details regarding the latest from SQA. This can be found here:

<https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/coronavirus/Education-learning-Coronavirus-COVID-19-updates.aspx>.

Garnock Community Campus, as well as following this guidance, is contributing to the content of the information shared with Parents / Carers. SQA have provided a section specifically for Parents and Carers on their website as well as a section of frequently asked questions.

Both can be found here:

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/93797.9752.html>

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/93825.html>

Please be assured we are all working together to ensure all our young people attain the qualifications their hard work deserves.

Support staff have been contacting their House groups via phone calls and SMHW. Pupil Support staff and Nurture staff continue to liaise with pupils and parents offering specialist support and advice. Our school Counsellor, Tracey Clarke, continues to offer support to our pupils remotely and arising issues can be referred to her via the Pastoral or Year Head link. We are also lucky enough that we continue to have PC Duffy in the community. If you need further information, please contact your child's Pastoral PT via their email or mobile number on our website.

Last Friday marked the end of an era for our S6 pupils and although we weren't able to celebrate with them in school, messages from staff including a playlist went onto Twitter and the website to celebrate their last day. We do however understand that some of our S6 pupils will continue to need support over the next few weeks. If any S6 pupils need advice in relation to securing a positive destination, whether that be college, university or securing a job then they can contact Ms House, their Pastoral Teacher or our careers advisors who are all more than happy to help.

Monday 4th May and Friday 8th May are both public holidays where no online tasks will not be set or reviewed by teachers. Pupils are still able to access our online platforms but there will be no online engagement from staff during these days.

Our website contains all the relevant links and packs of information that will provide you with the information necessary to support your child:

<https://www.garnockcommunitycampus.co.uk/covid19>

We will also be sending out a newsletter to all parents, highlighting some of the activities our staff and pupils have been involved in since we started working from home.

These are challenging times for us all and we appreciate your continued understanding and support throughout.

Yours sincerely,



Alan Dick
Head Teacher