



Dear Parents and Carers,

As I hope you are aware I began as Acting Headteacher this Monday, 8 November. I write to you now at the end of the week with a brief update by way of introduction.

I have been warmly welcomed by the school community and met most pupils and staff. I can assure you that the atmosphere in the school is positive, calm, and productive. I have been impressed by our pupils' openness and warmth but most importantly by their clear commitment to grow as people and contribute to their school and community. This is exemplified by our pupil leaders respectfully marking Armistice Day and selling poppies this week. Hamish and Halle (Head Boy and Head Girl) have met with me and articulated their plans and aspirations in their roles this year. As a direct result of their and other senior pupil representation; I am pleased to support a request for a Senior Study Room. This will provide a dedicated area in which our committed young people can work independently toward their exam success.

Our partners are essential to our work in school. I have met with many partners this week including Dumfries and Galloway College and Skills Development Scotland to ensure our pupils have access to a broad range of support in pursuing their goals.

Schools are always seeking to improve, and Stranraer Academy is no different. I will be working with our entire school community to identify key areas for development and build on the positive work I have seen this week. Your support as parents and carers will be central to this and I look forward to working with you.

Mrs Baigioni DHT is currently absent from school and will be for a few weeks. We are fortunate to have secured the services of Mr MacKenzie, a highly experienced DHT and former Stranraer Academy teacher, currently working at Douglas Ewart High School.

As we close a successful week of school at Stranraer Academy, I want to thank everyone involved in the continued success and progress of our school.

Mr J Farquhar

Acting Headteacher