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Acting Head of School: Mrs D Ritchie  
Acting Executive Headteacher: Mrs F Craik

Friday 12 February

Dear Parents and Carers

I write at the end of this half term to thank you all for your hard work in supporting your child to engage with their home learning over the past six weeks. I am sure that the whole school community is looking forward to a well-earned break!

We are proud of the exceptional commitment and determination of the majority of our students. Their daily efforts and achievements have been noticed by their teachers and we are pleased with the progress in their learning. However, the half term break presents an opportunity for some of our students to catch up with any learning tasks that they have missed over the last few weeks.

We look forward to another busy half term ahead. Our Year 9 options process will begin with a 'virtual taster day' and information about this will be circulated to Y9 parents, carers and students in due course. We are continuing to adapt and refine our remote learning provision, and hope to offer some additional opportunities for students to engage with extracurricular activities throughout the next half term. We remain hopeful that we will be able to welcome more of our students into school at some point in the next half term and eagerly await any change to the Government's current position regarding the closure of schools.

We begin our Lenten journey next Wednesday. Lent is the season of reflection and preparation before Easter. It is a time of sacrifice, penance, and prayer in preparation of the risen Lord. We approach the Lenten season with great anticipation. We look forward to helping our students to make this Lenten Season meaningful for them via our 'virtual' classrooms following the half term break.

During half term, students do not have the access to school staff that they have become accustomed to via Google Classroom. Kooth ([www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)) offers free, safe and anonymous counselling support for anyone feeling vulnerable. If anybody is concerned about the safety of their child, themselves or another person, please contact:

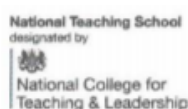
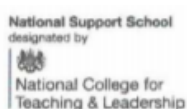
- South Tyneside Children's Services (Within Office Hours) Tel: 0191 424 5010
- South Tyneside Children's Emergency Duty Services (Out of Hours) Tel: 0191 456 2093
- South Tyneside Adult Safeguarding (Within Office Hours) Tel: 0191 424 6000
- South Tyneside Adult Safeguarding Emergency Duty Team (Out of Hours) Tel: 0191 4562093

I hope that you and your families enjoy a restful half term break.

Kind regards

D Ritchie

Mrs Ritchie  
Acting Head of School



Excellentia per fidem, per scientiam, per adiuvatum