

## **Back in the Classroom**

The return to physical schooling has been hugely welcome in so many ways. Whilst the adaptability to online learning shown by students and staff was hugely impressive, there is no denying that face-to-face interactions remain a hugely powerful component of learning and teaching.

From the chemical smells evident in Gibson House to the ensemble performances emanating from the Robertson Building, we are constantly reminded of the part that our senses and our community can play in learning: let us all hope that the current trajectory of opening up is maintained.

On the qualification front, our students due to sit external examinations have thrived this term. It would be all too easy to bemoan the situation we are dealing with, but there has been a real buzz of positivity around the ongoing learning and assessment opportunities this term. The students deserve real credit for their approach, and the work that the whole staff body have done to support them in this has been really quite incredible. In saying all of that, I think all will be pleased when the assessment process comes to an end and we can look forward to the end of term activities and preparing for the next stage, whether that be Sixth Form, University, or another post-school pathway.

Other year groups have simply enjoyed the return to learning in the company of friends, free of any thoughts of examination, and that is to be celebrated just as proudly as any success with qualifications.