

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we reach the midway point of the first term, it has been encouraging to see our pupils continue to act in a responsible manner in and around the school, and to see them making good progress with their studies.

Please see a number of updates below:

Parent Council

Our thanks go to Elspeth McCallum, who chaired her final meeting as Parent Council Chairperson in this week's Annual General Meeting. Mrs McCallum leaves the Parent Council in good shape, and we welcome Mrs Heather McManus as our new Chairperson. Supporting Mrs McManus will be Mr Tim Gollins, our new Vice-Chair and Mrs Wendy MacPherson, who will continue as Treasurer. The next meeting of the Parent Council is on Tuesday 6th October at 7pm online. Further details will be issued nearer the time and information on the Parent Council can be gained by email at braeshigh.parentcouncil@gmail.com.

Friends at Braes

Our Friends at Braes, parent-led fundraising group also met recently to hold their Annual General Meeting, with Leah Currie re-elected as Chairperson, Molly Folkman as Treasurer, and Josie Carnie as Secretary. The next meeting of FAB is on Monday 26th October at 6.30pm online. Further information on FAB can be obtained from Leah by email at friendsatbraeshigh@gmail.com.

Sanitary Products

We will be reminding pupils that sanitary products are available free of charge from the school. Normally, we would have stored these in the girl's toilets. These are available from the Pastoral Base, from Cheryl Butler, or from our Medical Area.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Details of extra-curricular activities have been posted around the school and are attached to this email. These relate to non-sporting activities only just now, although we hope to have sporting activities in place shortly as national guidance continues to develop. I would encourage our young people to 'be part of it' and get involved in extra-curricular activities that interest them.

Ongoing procedures

As previously communicated we have been impressed with our pupils' ability to adapt to the new procedures and expectations. It has been encouraging to see pupils taking responsibility for bringing and using face coverings to school. We would encourage all pupils to continue to bring their own covering to school and to ensure these are worn not only when required in school but also on school transport. We do have a small supply to issue to pupils if required.

We are grateful to parents/carers for their support of the school in dealing with the current situation. As a reminder, it is essential that people do not attend school if symptomatic. Everyone who develops symptoms of COVID-19 – a new, continuous cough; fever or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste - should self-isolate straight away, stay at home and arrange a test either by visiting www.nhsinform.scot or, if they cannot get online, by calling 0800 028 2816. People who live

in the same household as a person with symptoms should also self-isolate straight away and stay at home. Only those developing symptoms should be tested. There is no need for other members of the household to have a test, unless they are also symptomatic. If the test result for the symptomatic person is negative, and they are not already isolating as a 'close contact' of a confirmed case, they can end isolation and return to work or school when they are well enough and have not had a fever for 48 hours assuming also that they are not quarantining for foreign travel reasons. The rest of their household can end isolation straight away.

Finally, I hope you and your family are doing well just now and can enjoy the weekend when it comes.

Iain Livingstone