

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been good to see our young people move into their new timetables in earnest. As well as learning and teaching, our young people continue to engage well in a range of different activities and achievements across the school. Just some of these are captured in the newsletter, which is linked below:

[Braes HS Newsletter Summer](#)

Parents/carers continue to be active participants in our school community. On Saturday, Friends at Braes made a great contribution to the Family Fun Day, providing refreshments and recycled uniform. FAB have been a great support to the school community again this session, and are always keen to hear from new members. If you would like to find out more please contact Chairperson Susan MacKinnon at friendsatbraeshigh@gmail.com. A list of just some of FAB's successes this year are noted below:

- ✓ Continuing to run a much-appreciated uniform recycling service, helping us to reduce, reuse and recycle.
- ✓ Supporting our pupils and staff during the Big Fit Walk
- ✓ Putting on a welcome disco for all S1 pupils – a great night had by all!
- ✓ Braes Big Night In – making sure our pupils had some treats before their homelessness charity fundraising event
- ✓ Summer Show – making sure our audiences have lovely refreshments
- ✓ Sports Day – helping our pupils complete to their best levels by arranging for water supplies from Tesco
- ✓ Dance Showcase – providing refreshments for the audience at this fantastic event
- ✓ Christmas Concert – festive treats for our large audience at this annual centrepiece of the school calendar
- ✓ Flight Club – supporting the innovative and enthusiastic members of our Flight Club group
- ✓ Digital Leaders – helping our Digital Leaders further develop their skills in 3D Printing
- ✓ Lego Wellbeing Club – helping with the purchase and recycling of lego sets, supporting our pupils having fun with Lego
- ✓ Music students – supporting the purchase of Bluetooth speakers helping pupils studying Music with their home practice
- ✓ Family Fun Day – helping to make the Family Fun Day a welcoming and enjoyable event for our community
- ✓ Braes Brightside – supporting our Braes Brightside Ambassadors with prizes for their wellbeing challenges
- ✓ Braes Youth Theatre – helping our brilliant BYT pupils at their various shows with refreshments for the appreciative audiences
- ✓ Braes Beat Radio room – supporting the growing number of pupils keen to be involved in the school radio station, Braes Beat, to fund new equipment's
- ✓ Ineos grant funding – working in partnership with our Science Faculty to secure grant funding from Ineos
- ✓ Tesco Stronger Starts – supporting Braes staff in securing funding for our Breakfast at Braes initiative
- ✓ Knitting Club – making sure this new club, focused on wellbeing and creativity, has the necessary resources and equipment
- ✓ Piano – helping our Music department's fundraising for a new piano

Our Parent Council met again this week, engaging well with young people from the Pupil Voice Group, and with our pupil STEM Leaders. Our Parent Council have again helped the school continue to move forward, making sure the voice of parents/carers helps informs our strategic development. Just some examples of the Parent Council's work are noted below. If you would like to get involved with the Parent Council please email Chairperson Kenneth MacKinnon at braeshigh.parentcouncil@gmail.com.

- ✓ engagement with Sports Council on the achievement of the sport Scotland Gold Award, pupil pathways and extra-curricular activity
- ✓ liaison with Reddingmuirhead and Wallacestone Community Council to help inform local development planning
- ✓ helped guide the development of the school's "Turn off to Tune in" mobile phone policy.
- ✓ informed thinking about the structure of the S3/4 curriculum
- ✓ discussed the content of improvement priorities for planning in session 2025/26
- ✓ engaged with Junior Pupil Leaders on their contributions to the school and own development
- ✓ supported the Pupil Voice Group in their contribution to school improvement planning
- ✓ discussed approaches to ensuring all pupils are ready to learn with our pupil Cost of the School Day' group
- ✓ helped inform the development of the school's social media output
- ✓ considered the school's updated anti-bullying policy
- ✓ discussed plans for additional sports facilities in Braes High School
- ✓ supported the school's Senior Awards, funding Dux medals
- ✓ reflected on approaches to learning and teaching with pupil self-evaluation leaders
- ✓ engaged with pupils and staff on how skills are developed and reflected upon on in lessons
- ✓ considered how our young people have performed in SQA qualifications and assessments
- ✓ supported the pupil Rights Respecting School group in gaining further reaccreditation as a UNICEF Gold Level Rights Respecting School

I would thank all Braes parents/carers for your ongoing support of the school and your young person(s).

Yours faithfully,

Iain Livingstone

