

Dear Parent/Carer,

On behalf of all at Braes we wish you a happy new year, and hope that you and those close to you have an enjoyable festive period. At the start of each term we of course work with our young people to remind them about the high expectations in our school. This week assemblies are taking place with our House groups, focusing in on how we all can work together to build further our respectful school community. Our Pupil Voice Group will be presenting to their peers on how their impact on our school's strategy and direction.

Please see an update on a number of matters below:

UNICEF Rights Respecting School – Gold Level Award

It is great to start the new year with really positive news and we were really pleased to learn that our school has again received accreditation as a Gold Level UNICEF Rights Respecting School. This is testament to the work carried out over many years in our Faculty under Miss Malcolm, and in particular the significant leadership and drive shown by both Mrs Cowper and Miss Graham. Our young people of course played an important role in achieving this prestigious award and it is lovely to see the comments made by the awarding panel about our school, noted below:

- Passionate and confident pupils who understand the importance of rights and are empowered to drive change within the school
- A strategic approach of senior leaders and the RRSA leads to embed a child rights approach, putting it at the core of the school's ethos, motto and values
- Relationships based on mutual respect and trust, where learning about rights is clearly affecting relationships in a positive way
- The strong culture of inclusivity and respect which is understood and articulated by the school community
- Pupil voice that is valued highly with a range of pupil voice groups giving opportunities for all young people to put their suggestions forward and for these to be acted upon

I am very grateful to all involved for their lead and contribution to this – well done everyone!

Uniform

We are grateful for the support of Braes families in ensuring the vast majority of our young people maintain a high standard of school uniform. As a reminder, school uniform consists of a school shirt, school jumper or cardigan, school tie, school trousers/leggings/skirt, and the school blazer. Young people can of course wear an outer jacket too. Friends at Braes, our parent-led fundraising group, provide a much appreciated and well used uniform recycling service. This can be accessed either at the school reception or by emailing friendsatbraeshigh@gmail.com.

Friends at Braes

The next meeting of Friends at Braes takes place on Monday 20th January, at 6.30pm in the conference room. Anyone who would like to find out more about the great work FAB do in supporting our school can email Chairperson Susan MacKinnon at friendsatbraeshigh@gmail.com.

Parent Council

The next meeting of the Parent Council takes place on Wednesday 22nd January, at 7pm in the school library. At the meeting our young people will present on their work as Self Evaluation Leaders and

we will also discuss findings of the recent consultation on the use of mobile phones in school. Should you wish more information please email Chairperson Kenneth MacKinnon at braeshigh.parentcouncil@gmail.com.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We are fortunate that Braes staff voluntarily put on a range of extra-curricular activities across the week. These are great opportunities for our pupils to learn new skills, build confidence and make new friends. I would encourage our pupils to 'be part of it' at Braes as much as they can. The list of clubs can be seen at the link below:

[Clubs and Activities | Braes High School | Braes High School | Secondary School Falkirk | Falkirk Education](#)

New email addresses

Falkirk Council have changed the structure of email addresses. The new email addresses for our school and Extended Leadership Team are noted below:

Braes High School – BraesHighSchool@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Senior Leadership Team

Iain Livingstone (Headteacher) – iain.livingstone@education.falkirk.sch.uk

David Ironside (Depute Headteacher – Pentland) – david.ironside@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Darren Yeates (Depute Headteacher – Ochil) – darren.yeates@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Jillian Shaw (Depute Headteacher – Lomond) – jillian.shaw@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Julie Wilkinson (Depute Headteacher – Campsie) – julie.wilkinson@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Ian Vosser (Depute Headteacher) – ian.vosser@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Pastoral Heads

George Burnett (Pastoral Head – Ochil) – george.burnett@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Laura Eckles (Pastoral Head – Pentland) – laura.eckles@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Michael Burns (Pastoral Head – Lomond) – michael.burns@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Linda Jones (Pastoral Head – Campsie) – linda.jones@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Faculty Heads

Kevin Deane (Faculty Head – Pupil Support) – kevin.deane@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Brendan Smith (Faculty Head – Health and Wellbeing) – brendan.smith@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Gillian McDonald (Faculty Head – Modern Languages) – gillian.mcdonald@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Fiona Malcolm (Faculty Head – Humanities) – fiona.malcolm@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Eilidh Wilkie (Faculty Head – Science) – eilidh.wilkie@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Ian Vosser (Faculty Head – Technologies) – ian.vosser@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Leanne Simpson (Faculty Head – Mathematics) – leanne.simpson@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Claire Haggon (Faculty Head – Mathematics) – claire.haggon@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Mark Rooney (Faculty Head – English & Media) – mark.rooney@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Brian Morris (Faculty Head – Creative Arts) – brian.morris@education.falkirk.sch.uk

I wish all Braes families well for the new year and thank you for your ongoing support of your young people and the school.

Yours faithfully,

Iain Livingstone

