

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been pleasing to see our young people continuing to engage well in lessons, and also to see the many aspects of extra-curricular life continuing to thrive in our school. In particular, last week's school show was a great success and testament to the efforts of so many staff, pupils and parents/carers. Thank you for your ongoing support of your young person(s) and the school. Please see an update on a number of matters below:

Staffing Changes

As parents/carers may be aware, Marjorie Cotter, Depute Headteacher of Pentland House, is retiring at the end of term. Ms Cotter has been a significant part of Braes High School for some time, and it has been a pleasure to work alongside her. I know pupils, parents/carers and colleagues will join me in wishing Ms Cotter all the best for her forthcoming retirement, and also be grateful for her many years of commitment to and support of our young people.

Ochil and Pentland House groups

From August onwards, Mr Ironside will be the Depute Headteacher linking with Pentland House, working with Mrs Eckles as Pastoral Head. Mr Yeates will begin as Depute Headteacher in August, linking with Ochil House, working with Mr Burnett as Pastoral Head. The recruitment process for a new permanent Faculty Head of Pupil Support is underway, and further updates will be issued when complete.

Reading Schools Gold Accreditation

Well-deserved recognition for our school's support of young people in reading has been received with the award of Reading School Gold Level accreditation. This award is given to schools who have successfully established a reading culture in their communities. The awarding panel noted the "huge amount of work and dedication" of everyone involved in developing an "incredible reading environment for learners". I would thank all colleagues and young people who have helped achieve this well-deserved accolade.

Last Day of term

Please note that the last day of term is Friday 28th June. School finishes at lunchtime with buses arriving to collect pupils at 12.30pm. The new school session for 2024/25 starts on Wednesday 14th August.

I hope all our young people have a pleasant and enjoyable end to the session, and would thank Braes families for your support throughout the school year.

Yours faithfully,

Iain Livingstone