

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope everyone had a pleasant weekend. Please see below a number of updates:

Friends at Braes meeting

A positive and constructive meeting of Friends at Braes, our parent-led fundraising group, took place last night. Anyone who wishes further updates on the activities of Friends at Braes can do so by emailing friendsatbraeshigh@gmail.com.

Revised Scottish Government Guidance – face coverings

As communicated on Friday, as Falkirk Council has been designated a Level 3 area for Enhanced Protection by the Scottish Government, **all staff and pupils should wear a face covering in classrooms during lessons in the senior phase. This applies to pupils in S4, S5 and S6.**

We genuinely appreciate the support given in encouraging your son/daughter to follow these revised guidelines. This guidance is in addition to the current position on face coverings in schools and please see below a brief reminder of this:

Face coverings should be worn in the following circumstances (except where an adult or child/young person is exempt from wearing a covering):

- *at all times when adults and young people are moving around the school in corridors, office and admin areas, canteens (except when dining) and other communal areas, including toilets.*
- *on school transport.*

Please note that some individuals are exempt from wearing face coverings. Further information on exemptions can be found in wider [Scottish Government guidance](#). Our pupils showed strong compliance with this measure yesterday and we are appreciative of their efforts on this.

Revised Scottish Government Guidance - attendance

The revised Scottish Government guidance also noted that parents/carers should discuss with their GP or clinician whether children with the highest clinical risk should still attend school.

Parking

As noted in last week's communications to parents/carers, the sensible approach to driving and parking around the school by the vast majority of parents is very much appreciated. As noted last week we have received concerns about inappropriate parking in the areas around the school. We have now received communication from Police Scotland in relation to this, asking us to continue to ask drivers to park in an appropriate way when collecting young people from the school. In particular, they have asked that parents do not park on roundabouts. I would thank Braes parents for their cooperation with this and their sensible approach. Please also use the main drop off area within the school grounds and do not park on raised kerb areas.

Braes Winter Festival of Kindness

We are acutely aware that our young people are experiencing their school years in circumstances none of us have had to experience before. It is of course crucial that we maintain and build further our positive school ethos. Staff and pupils therefore, as part of our UNICEF Rights Respecting School activity, plan to hold a series of events as part of the 'Braes Winter Festival of Kindness'. This involves supporting homelessness charities such as Social Bite, our local food bank Braes Storehouse, and by continuing our Braes Pop-up Shop, encouraging recycling and reuse. Further details of these projects can be seen on the attached presentation, which is being shared with pupils this week.

Finally, our thanks go to all Braes families for their ongoing support as we progress through the second term of the session.

Yours faithfully,

Iain Livingstone