

Dear Parent/Carer,

This week has seen our young people get used to the new rules regarding face coverings. As a reminder of the new position, young people no longer need to wear a face covering when in class but should wear a face covering, unless exempt, when in communal areas such as corridors, stairwells and school transport. We would emphasise again that anyone who wishes to wear a face covering in class is fully supported in doing so. Please see an update on a number of matters below:

Friends at Braes

Our Parent-led fundraising group, Friends at Braes has continued to contribute positively to our school community, raising funds and supporting pupil groups and activities. Further information about two areas of FAB's activity can be gained from the two attachments, which outline how to go about joining FAB Lotto, and also how to access and support the FAB Uniform Recycling facility. We are indebted to the parents/carers involved in this group, and to all others who support the work of Friends at Braes. The next meeting of the group takes place on Monday 25th April, at 6.30pm, online via Teams. Should any parent/carer wish to get in touch with FAB, please email Chairperson Leah Curry at friendsatbraeshigh@gmail.com.

Parent Council

The next meeting of our positive and constructive Parent Council takes place on Monday 7th March, at 7pm, online via Teams. Should you wish to attend the meeting, or gain further information, please email Chairperson Heather McManus, at braeshigh.parentcouncil@gmail.com. At this meeting there will be presentations from our Pupil Eco Group and our Pupil STEM Leaders.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Please find attached a revised list of non-sporting extra-curricular activities for pupils in light of the changed school day timings. These have been posted on to pupils' Year Group Teams pages and are also posted around the school, along with details of the many sports clubs available too. I am very grateful to Braes staff for providing these additional opportunities and it is great to see so many young people getting involved and being part of it at Braes.

GTCS Excellence in Professional Learning

It was pleasing to hear that the school has achieved the 'Excellence in Professional Learning' award, accorded by the General Teaching Council for Scotland. A major focus of working in Braes is being committed to professional learning, and ensuring we utilise this to further develop our everyday practice. To have this recognised by GTCS is rewarding for Braes staff in their efforts to provide engaging learning experiences for young people.

Education Scotland HM Inspectors Visit

Education Scotland recently contacted Scottish schools to seek expressions of interest in engaging with School Inspectors on the theme of COVID-19 educational recovery. The purpose of these visits to schools is to support the overall educational recovery process by identifying and sharing effective practice in schools. We have invited the Inspectors to come to Braes, and we look forward to the visiting team being in school on Monday 7th March and Tuesday 8th March. When in school they will speak with pupils, staff and parents/carers about their experience.

In the meantime, I wish all Braes families well and look forward to seeing the continued progress of our pupils as the term progresses.

Yours faithfully,
Iain Livingstone