

Dear Parent/Carer,

No doubt you will have been following news stories regarding the COVID-19 situation. We are doing likewise and will of course take note of changes to Scottish Government guidance if and when any changes emerge. However, our focus is very much on ensuring our young people have a safe, enjoyable and productive end of term.

Please see some updates and reminders below:

#### Last Week of term

As previously announced, Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November will be a non-uniform day for all pupils, with the wearing of House colours encouraged. Pupils are invited to make a small contribution of around £1 to school funds on that day, either through collections during period 1, or via Ipay. The Christmas Cup, our festive interhouse competition, will take place during period 6 lessons. Given that it is the last day of term the following day

The last day of term is **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December**. School transport will arrive to collect pupils at 12.30pm. Given that it is the last day of term, we will also allow pupils to wear non-uniform on this day too, although no school funds donation is asked for on that date.

School closes formally at **1.00pm** on that day. The new terms begins on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.

#### Lateral Flow Testing

Please continue to encourage your young person to participate in Lateral Flow testing at least twice per week. Test kits are available from the school reception. Pupils should take kits home with them over the break, and ensure they take a Lateral Flow test before returning to school. Please continue to record test results, both positive and negative, using the link below:

[Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/report-a-covid-19-rapid-lateral-flow-test-result)

#### Contact Tracing Logs

A separate communication is being issued by all secondary schools to parents/carers in relation to Contact Tracing logbooks. This will be emailed separately.

#### Christmas Concert

Our Christmas Concert was broadcast on YouTube last night, and showcases the many talents of our young people both in Braes and across the Cluster. Well done to all staff and pupils on their hard work on this. It can be viewed online via the link below:

[Christmas Concert @ 7pm on Wednesday 15th December](#)

#### Foodbank donations and Homeless Care Packs

We are very grateful to parents/carers for their support of both the Foodbank drive, and the donations towards the Homeless Care Packs. We will be liaising with Braes Storehouse to make deliveries next week, and further updates on the Homeless Care Packs will follow.

Many thanks for your ongoing support of your young people and the school. I hope all Braes families are keeping and coping well just now. Although the current situation is uncertain, what remains the same is the commitment of all in the Braes community to make sure our young people are well looked after and well supported in their education. If there are further updates, we will of course be in touch. In the meantime however, please have an enjoyable festive period and all the best for 2022 when it comes.

Yours faithfully,

Iain Livingstone