

Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly, I would thank our young people for the way in which they have responded to news of the tragedy that occurred last weekend. As a pupil group, they have shown fortitude, kindness and respect. Although we would not have doubted our young people in this regard, their response and approach is very much appreciated. Our thoughts of course remain with the family, and those close to the young person concerned.

We will continue to support our young people as we move forward, both this week and in the new session. Later this week, Miss Wilkinson (Depute Headteacher), will send further information regarding supports for young people and families.

Please see a number of updates below:

Departing staff

At the end of the session, we will say goodbye to a number of colleagues departing from Braes. I would like to thank Miss Smith and Miss Veldon for their fine work and contributions as probationer teachers this session, and also to Mr Bevan for his strong contribution in DET. This summer also sees a change in our school library staffing, with Mrs Ngabia moving to a cluster role in Grangemouth and Mr Hagen retiring. We would wish them both all the best for the future and thank them for their sterling efforts in supporting young people at Braes. In addition, we must recognise the efforts of Mrs White, our Faculty Head of Pupil Support, who is moving on to become Depute Headteacher at Carrongrange High School. Mrs White has led our faculty very well in her time here and, I know, will be very much missed by parents/carers, colleagues and pupils alike. Retiring at the end of the session is Mrs Paterson, Teacher of DET. Mrs Paterson has been a long standing servant to Braes High School, and in her time at Braes has been a highly valued colleague and teacher to so many people. Mrs Paterson will also be very much missed and we wish her all the very best for her well-deserved retirement.

Faculty Head of Pupil Support

Congratulations go to Mr Yeates, who has been appointed as the new Faculty Head of Pupil Support. Mr Yeates will begin the role from August 2021.

Principal Teacher of Cluster PE and Music

Congratulations go to Brendan Smith, who has been appointed as the new Principal Teacher of PE and Music across our associated primary schools.

Last Day of term

The last day of term is Friday 25th June. Lunch will be at 12.35pm until 1.15pm. The school will be closed by 1.30pm. Buses will arrive to collect pupils at 12.35pm. This day will be a non-uniform day. Pupils are invited to pay £1 and all funds donated will be given to the family at the centre of weekend's tragedy, at the request of our pupils. The usual rules of not wearing football colours, or clothing with inappropriate slogans apply. The new session begins for pupils on Wednesday 18th August 2021.

School office opening

As many office staff now work term-time only, there will be a skeleton staff working in our office across the summer break. During the last 2 weeks of the break, weeks beginning 2nd August and 9th August, the office can be contacted between 9am and 3pm. There will be availability in our office prior to that, but this may be more sporadic.

Finally, I would thank all parents/carers for your support of both the school and your young person, throughout this academic year. The achievements of our young people have made us proud, and we look forward to another productive session in 2021/22.

Yours faithfully,

Iain Livingstone