

Dear Parent/Carer,

This week has already seen the school continue to be a hive of activity, with our pupils involved in many engaging and enjoyable leadership opportunities. On Monday evening, young people made presentations to Friends at Braes, our parent-led fundraising group, with successful bids for funding towards our Pupil Support provision and our Technology clubs. The next meeting of FAB takes place on Monday 12th December at 6.30pm. If you would like to be involved in this group please email Chairperson Susan MacKinnon at friendsatbraeshigh@gmail.com. On Friday night this week pupils and staff will be taking part in the 'Braes Big Night In', an event to raise awareness of the issue of homelessness, and funds for Rock Trust, Scotland's youth homelessness charity. For our senior phase pupils, a range of study supports are in operation, with communications in relation to these coming from Mrs Cotter, Depute Head teacher. I would urge all our senior pupils to take advantage of the multiple supports on offer, as their build-up to prelim examinations should be well underway.

Please see an update on a number of matters below :

In Service Day

Please note the school will be closed to pupils on Friday 25th November for the in-service day.

Late coming

We are grateful to parents/carers for their support in ensuring young people arrive at school on time. As a parent myself I can empathise that mornings can be busy times for families. However we are of course keen for all our pupils to be able to begin learning from the start of the pupil day, and to ensure that late arrivals do not interrupt the learning of other pupils. We will therefore resume next week the practice of contacting parents/carers by text message to advise when a young person has arrived late for school, to ensure that parents/carers are kept fully informed.

Medical Arrangements

We have noted on a small number of occasions that pupils feeling unwell have made direct contact with home and have left school, without informing staff. We are therefore emphasising to pupils the need to firstly speak with our office staff, and/or Mrs Stewart our medical attendant, if they feel unwell in the first instance. We of course want to ensure our young people are safe in this regard.

Careers/Course Choice events

This week of course sees our in-school course choice and careers information events. In addition, Skills Development Scotland careers advisers are hosting a webinar for parents and carers of secondary pupils on 10th November at 6:30pm to discuss the options available to young people when they leave secondary school, and resources and support available from Skills Development Scotland. Parents and carers can register for our session here:

<https://Understandingoptionsavailableafterschool.eventbrite.co.uk>

I look forward to seeing our young people continue to be part of it at Braes, as the term continues to move on in a very busy, positive and productive way.

Yours sincerely,

Iain Livingstone

