

The Braidy Times

Autumn 2021

Head Teacher's Report

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family well and healthy. Despite the restrictions we continue to provide various opportunities for our pupils and families. It is important to maintain a level of normality and ensure our pupils have every chance to reach their potential.

To date, every pupil at Braidhurst has received a report, with S1 provided with information on how they have settled into high school. We are delighted with how well they are doing! Our S2/3 pupils were told how they were progressing and the levels they are working at.

Our S4/5/6 pupils now know the grades they are working at and their target grade - the level they should, with hard work, achieve. We are also planning to hold a virtual senior phase information evening on Wednesday 3rd November to emphasise the importance of working hard and the various pathways pupils can follow. We hope you and your child will be able to attend.

We are also planning three virtual parents' evenings for S4, S1 and S5/6 where you will have the opportunity to speak to your child's teachers. We have provided a step-by-step guide on how you can make appointments and will also demonstrate to your child how it works so they can help you! We look forward to seeing you.

Please remember there are various events on a Friday afternoon, through our Future Friday's programme, which your child can participate in. Mr Pryde in the PE department is the co-ordinator and your child should speak to him if interested in taking part. If your child normally travels via school transport they will be provided with a taxi to take them home on a Friday afternoon.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your continued support, commitment, and generosity to the Braidhurst community.

Take care

Carolyn Rooney
Head Teacher



New S1 Intake

The Braidhurst community extends a very warm welcome to our new S1 intake for school session 2021-22. The school were recently delighted to assemble the entire year group for the traditional S1 photograph, which took place this year in the playground so that pupils could remain socially distanced from one another. Best of luck to all of our new pupils as you take the first step in your Braidhurst journey.

School Captains

It is with great pleasure that the school introduces this year's school captains. Iona Eldhose was appointed school captain with Louise Day, David Blair and Andrew Clark as vice-captains. The entire Braidhurst community would like to wish our captains every success this year, and congratulations once again.





Reading Schools

Braidhurst are going for gold accreditation as part of the Scottish Book Trust's 'Reading Schools' programme which encourages schools to embed a positive culture of reading for pleasure within its school community. The first step was assembling a committee of staff and pupils who will work throughout the coming school year to achieve gold accreditation. The committee have already been busy planning and training with lots of events and celebrations scheduled over the coming year. Good luck to the staff and pupils involved.



NLC Logo Competition

Braidhurst High Art and Design pupils have had great success in the recent North Lanarkshire Logo Design competition. The brief was to create an artistic club logo for care experienced children from 12 to 16 years of age. The winning designer was A. Khan with her 'creativity club' logo. Also winning prizes were Z. Lockhart and C. Grant. Pictured are some of our winning pupils with North Lanarkshire representative Laura Campbell.





Sports Ambassadors

Congratulations to our senior pupils Ellie Anderson and Amy McAlonan who have been selected as our Sports Ambassadors after a competitive interview process. Congratulations and best wishes for the year ahead.



School of Netball

Recently, Braidhurst hosted the trials for the S2 School of Netball. It was a roaring success. Well done to all the pupils who participated and to those successful few who are now School of Netball pupils for school session 2021-22.





Breakfast Club

Every weekday morning Braidhurst runs a breakfast club from the school canteen which any of our pupils can attend to enjoy breakfast and get themselves ready for the school day ahead. A range of staff help out at our breakfast club and it is well attended by our pupils.



Food Bank

The school also delivers a food bank of dried and non-perishable food items to any of our families who find themselves in need. Please let us know if this is something which you require.

Uniform - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

We have a bank of school jumpers and uniform. As winter approaches and the weather gets colder, please let us know if your child needs anything. We appreciate how quickly they grow out of things!

If you can help with any of the above by donating food, uniform or winter jackets, hats and scarves we would be most grateful.



Parents' Group

Our parents' group are always looking for new parent volunteers to join and help with organising events and fundraising. The group meets once every half term in the school and would warmly welcome new parents. If you are interested in joining please contact the school on: 01698 274999 to find out when the next meeting is taking place.





Family Drop-In Session

On Thursday 30th September, Braidhurst organised a 'Family Drop-In' event at Forgewood Community Centre where our pupils and their families could seek help and advice on a range of topics. The session offered information on free school meals, clothing grants, life after school, and much more whilst families enjoyed tea, coffee and cakes. The school was particularly keen to reach out to the families who have English as a second language, and as such advertised the event in various languages, to ensure their attendance. The session was very successful, with many families now more knowledgeable about matters relating to their child's education. Thank you to all who came along to the event and to the staff and pupils who volunteered to help.



Reading Schools Transition Visits

On Friday the 8th of October the first of our P7 transition visits took place in the school library. Over the coming weeks each P7 class from our local primary schools will attend to explore why we should read for pleasure. The first visit was from Logans Primary School who worked very hard in their groups to mind map the positive benefits of personal reading. Each class will use their mind map as the basis for an advert demonstrating the importance of reading for pleasure. The best adverts from each primary school will then be turned into either a radio advert or a short film with the winning groups also receiving a reward. We look forward to welcoming the P7 classes of Muir Street Primary and Ladywell Primary very soon.

