



BRIDGE OF DON ACADEMY

Be Caring Be Honest Be Respectful Be Your Best

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Head Teacher: Daphne McWilliam



10 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Head Teacher's Update – 10 September 2021

I write to update you on the following:

- Staff Changes
- Holiday and In-Service Days for the session
- School Transport: Balmedie Buses
- CFINE Food Bank Collection
- School Canteen Prices
- Parent Council
- NHS advice if a young person is Covid-19 symptomatic during the school day
- Covid-19 and Challenging Family Circumstances
- Covid-19 Vaccinations
- Autumn Flu Vaccination Programme
- Lateral Flow Testing
- Pathway Planning

Staff Changes

Head of Braemar House

We are pleased that our new Head of Braemar House Miss Victoria Howard will be joining us on Monday 13 September to take over the leadership of Braemar House.

Teacher of Physics & Teacher of English

We are progressing well with the recruitment process for these posts and are awaiting finalisation of paperwork so the preferred candidates can take up their posts later this month.

Mr Colin Wallace: Teacher of Physical Education

On Thursday the staff said a fond farewell to Mr Wallace in the PE department on his last day. He will be missed by staff and pupils.

Holidays and In-Service Days 2021 – 22

These can be viewed for the session on Aberdeen City Council [website](#). Dates for this term are as follows:

September Holiday Weekend

Friday 24 September: school closed

Monday 27 September: school closed

October Holidays

Friday 8 October: Last day of school

Monday 25 October: First day of new term

School Transport – Balmedie Buses

We have been asked by the contractor to remind young people to board the correct bus on the journey to and from school. Two buses transport pupils from Balmedie and there are enough seats for them all if they board the correct bus. On Thursday 9 September the impact of some young people waiting for the second bus who should have been on the first one was that there were not enough seats when the second bus arrived to take all the pupils who were waiting.

Young people should ensure they only board the bus they are allocated to and that they carry their bus pass or the letter allocating them to a particular bus in case of checks by the drivers.

CFINE Food Bank Collection

Once again, we will be collecting non-perishable food and essential items for CFINE. To find out more use this [link](#).



Yes Please	No Thank You
Tinned Food Cereals Pasta Condiments and spices Juices Toiletries Nappies	Fresh Food Frozen Items Refrigerated Items

The next collection date from the school is Thursday 23 September – just before the long weekend. Collection points are located throughout the school as follows: Assembly Room, The Home Economics classroom, G17 (Miss Strachan's room), F12 (Miss Devlin's room), the Staff Room and T3 (Mrs Lees' room).

School Canteen Prices

We are aware of several young people who have gone without lunch as a result of not having enough money on their Accord Card to buy food from the canteen. In some cases, this is due to the youngster overspending earlier in the week, but there are others who have not had enough money to cover the cost of a school lunch for all five days. At the end of this letter is a copy of the current price list in the canteen, correct as of 9 September 2021 in order to help parents and carers determine how much money they wish to give their child for lunch and a snack in the morning. If you think your child could be eligible for free school meals, please visit Aberdeen

City Council's website via this [link](#) or search the council's website for "free school meals".

Parent Council – Come and Join Us!

If you would like to find out more about the school, contribute to decision making and support the staff and pupils please come along to the Parent Council. They would like to ensure we have representation across all the year groups and especially our new S1 parents and carers. All meetings are taking place remotely through Microsoft Teams from 19.30 – 20.30 on the last Tuesday of the month as follows:

Tuesday 28 September 2021
Tuesday 26 October 2021
Tuesday 30 November 2021
Tuesday 25 January 2022
Tuesday 29 March 2022
Tuesday 26 April 2022
Tuesday 31 May 2022

If you would like to join the Parent Council or just come along and find out a bit more, please email the school with your name, e-mail address, and the name of your child(ren) and we will invite you to the next meeting.

The Parent Council 100 Club

The details of how this works and benefits the school can be found in the poster at the end of this letter.

NHS advice if a young person is Covid-19 symptomatic during the school day

If a young person is Covid-19 symptomatic during the school day, they will be supported by our first aid team and parents/carers contacted to collect them with the advice that they should have a PCR test. The latest NHS advice I have received is that any siblings should also be sent home and the family self-isolate until the results of the test are known. Thereafter the advice of public health should be followed about self-isolation for the family if the test result is positive.

Covid-19 and Challenging Family Circumstances

We are aware of the impact the pandemic has had on family incomes and circumstances and we want to help where we can. As well as drawing parents and carers attention to sources of help like those detailed in last week's [HT update letter](#) we do have access to funds which can support young people to make life in school easier when their family is experiencing either long- or short-term financial hardship. As always, the first point of contact is your child's Guidance Teacher/Head of House. Please be assured that if you make contact, we will respect your privacy and be sensitive to the family's circumstances.

Self-Isolation – Support for Families

This [link](#) will take you to the page on Aberdeen City Council website where you will find information about a grant to support families who have to self-isolate.

In addition, you may have concerns about the economic impact on your family if you are unable to attend your workplace whilst your child is required to self-isolate. Aberdeen City Council has established a Support Line which is available from 9.00am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday. Colleagues at the Support Line can offer a range of welfare advice, emotional support and help with food or prescription collection. If the team can support in any way please contact the Support Line on 0800 0304 713.

For families living in Aberdeenshire: contact Grampian Coronavirus assistance hub on 08081963384. Use this [link](#) to find out more about what is available.

Covid-19 Vaccinations for 16 and 17-year-olds

There are a number of options for young people and indeed anyone aged over 18 years who has still to get their first or second dose of the Covid-19 vaccine. The city has several clinics for drop-ins and options for appointment booking. Clinic information can be viewed using this link: <https://www.nhsgrampian.org/covid-19/covid-19-public-information/covid-19-vaccination-clinics-aberdeen/>

To book an appointment: please call the Aberdeen Covid-19 contact centre free on 0800 0304 713, open Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm, to book into one of the clinics.

Autumn Flu Vaccination Programme

Our allocated dates are 4, 5 and 6 October. The vaccine for school pupils will be administered via a nasal spray. More information can be found by using this link <https://www.nhsinform.scot/flu-vaccine/the-vaccines/the-child-flu-vaccine>. We are now waiting for information from the NHS Immunisation Team so we can timetable this throughout the three days allocated to us.

Lateral Flow Testing

Taking a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test, ideally twice a week, helps with early detection of cases of Covid-19. LFD kits are available from school and following completion of the following can be issued to pupils though PSE or collected from the school office.

NHS Consent Form – <https://forms.gle/pEcG1dp1n7Pp1hpK8>

S1 – S3 Renewal - <https://forms.gle/Zh1Wdfa9qUwHm9YR8>

S4 – S6 Renewal - <https://forms.gle/4BssE34StXMDtJD87>

Pathway Planning - Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Opportunities

DYW opportunities are regularly available on Google Classroom and the school website for young people to see. This week the following have been posted:

- A Career in Technology
- Reach Programme
- Baxter Retail Assistants (PT Job Opportunity)
- Food Industry Opportunities
- North of Scotland Universities Collaborative Project: Autumn Online Events series
- British Army Sessions

Further DYW opportunities can be found using the following link -
<https://bridgeofdon.aberdeen.sch.uk/wp/?p=8215>

Contact with School

When e-mailing please provide your child's name and registration class and a note of the nature of the concern so it can be forwarded appropriately.

Pastoral Care

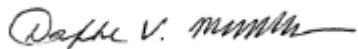
Braemar House	Miss Howard
Crathes House	Mrs Napier
Drum House	Miss Smith
Fyvie House	Mrs Marshall

Year Heads

S1 and S2	Mr Haggarty
S3 and S4	Mrs Cruickshank
S5 and S6	Mr Jamieson

I hope that you all continue to be well and, as always, please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further support.

Yours sincerely



Mrs D McWilliam
 Head Teacher

PARENT COUNCIL



£2 per number to win up to
£50 each month!

100 Club

Profits buy learning and teaching resources e.g.

- Subscription to *My Maths* for all pupils S1-6
- Textbooks for Higher and N5 RMPS
- Maths Textbooks for S4 pupils
- Personal and Social Education resources for Drugs Education and Sex Education
- Subscription to online research resource "Issues".
- Library Books: fiction to support personal reading

1. Set up direct debit using the form below or use your online banking app with the sort code and account number from the form.
2. Cost - £2 per month per number.
3. Email the school bridgeofdon@aberdeencity.gov.uk to tell us you have done this and the information will be passed onto the treasurer who will allocate a number(s). Include your name, email, and phone number – to contact you if you win!



The Manager

..... Please insert the
..... Name, Address & Postcode
..... of **your own** Bank.
.....

Please arrange to pay **LLOYDS TSB Scotland plc
St Machar (873410) Branch
PO BOX 1000
BX1 1LT**

Sort Code **87-34-10**

For the credit of **BODA PARENT COUNCIL**

Account Number **88649860**

The sum of **£**

Commencing*

— — / — — / — — —

*When inserting a starting date, please ensure that the money will be transferred in time for the draw

Frequency **Monthly**

Date of last Payment

(or UFN - Until further notice -

perhaps work out the month /year your child will leave school)

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Reference(insert your name)

Account to be debited
(i.e. the name(s) of the account holder(s))

Your Account Number — — — — — Sort code — — - — —

Signature(s)

Date

SEND THIS FORM TO YOUR OWN BANK

Or better still – use online banking to set it all up using the details above

<https://www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk/for-the-public/Fundraising-and-promotions/Fundraising/Fundraising-with-100-200-500-clubs.aspx#:~:text=In%20most%20cases%20members%20of,of%20the%20club%20or%20society>

SCHOOL CANTEEN PRICES

SOUP:- 70P
MAIN MEAL:- £1.70
HOT FILLED ROLL:- £1.30
BURGERS:- £1.55
PIZZINI:- £1.20
PIZZA:- £1.25
CHICKEN POPPERS:- £1.10
CUP A SNACK:- £1.35
BAKED POTATO & 1 FILLING:- £1.40
SUB BUNS:-£1.60
PORTION OF SALAD:- £0.50

PANINI (1 FILLING) £2.10
PANINI (2 FILLINGS) £2.20
SANDWICH (1 FILLING) £1.25
SANDWICH (2 FILLINGS) £1.45
WRAP (1 FILLING) £1.50

PROPER CORN:- £0.75
POP OATS:- £0.60
CEREAL BARS:- £0.65
COOKIES:- £0.75
ALL CAKES:- £0.80
PANCAKES:- £0.70
BUTTERED PETIT PAINS:- £0.50

POTS OF FRUIT:- £0.60
BANANA, ORANGE OR APPLE:- £0.40
DESSERTS:- £0.75

DRINKS

WATER (500ML) £0.60
RUBICON BOTTLES:- £1.20
FIZZY BOTTLES:- £1.20
MILKSHAKES:- £0.60
RADNOR FLAVOURED WATER:- £0.60

As of September 2021

