



BRIDGE OF DON ACADEMY

Be Caring Be Honest Be Respectful Be Your Best

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Head Teacher: Daphne McWilliam



14 October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Head Teacher's Update – 14 October 2022

I write to update you on the following:

- Calendar Dates
- Cfine Foodbank Collection
- Winter Coats: Help Available for Families
- Biology Field Trips
- Parents' Evenings and Report Schedule
- Parent Council and 100 Club
- Contact with School

Calendar Dates

Last Day of Term:	Friday 14 October 2022
First Day of Term:	Monday 31 October 2022
In Service Day	Friday 18 November 2022
Last Day of Term	Thursday 22 December 2022
First day of term	Monday 9 January 2022

Cfine Foodbank Collection



For a week from Wednesday 5 October young people in S6 visited all registration classes to collect and encourage donations of items and cash for our foodbank collection for CFine <https://www.cfine.org/>.

They worked very hard each morning and were not discouraged: I was proud of their perseverance. Thank you for all of the contributions that you made. As well as all the food donations we received which were enough to fill ten crates we also received a total of £223.72 in cash donations. Miss Strachan and I took a small group of young people shopping on Thursday morning with this cash and purchased enough items to fill a further seven crates. This is a truly outstanding contribution from our pupils and their families. Last session a normal collection was somewhere

in the region of eight crates per term and this term we have more than doubled our donation! Thank You for your support!



The 17 crates ready to be picked up Friday 14 October 2022.

The young people pictured above showed that by working together as part of a team and not giving up that great things can be achieved. Individually some were disappointed that on some days there were small numbers or no donations. However, they can now see the excellent result of their collective efforts. I am very proud of all our pupils who contributed to this collection.

Winter Coats: Help Available for Families

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you are worried about not being able to afford to buy your child(ren) a coat suitable for a north-east winter –which can last a long time. You could receive a £50 Primark voucher which would be enough to buy a warm coat.

Just email or phone the school you do not need to say why – asking for your child's guidance teacher to get in touch.

Biology Field Trips

See pictures below of the two trips. Mrs McAllister who organised and led the trips commented that:

All pupils were a credit to themselves and the school in behaviour, effort and temperament. I believe it did much more than just attain biological knowledge as we watched them working together whilst washing up and cleaning and playing games together on the evening. (thanks to limited wi-fi signal!)





Parents' Evenings and Report Schedule

The details of all parents/carers evenings the reporting schedule are contained in the document at the end of this letter. This outlines the purpose and timing of all reports and parents' evenings.

The results of the consultation with staff and parents/carers about whether the meetings should be face to face or online were close with a slight majority for face to face. There was a stronger preference face to face meetings from parents/carers of S1 – S3 young people than S4- S6. It is not possible to have both online and face to face on the same night. The consultation with staff was also very close.

Therefore, taking all this into account for this session we will hold S4 – S6 parents' evenings online and S1 – S3 face to face. We will review this at the end of the session.

Can I please reassure all parents/carers that if, following a parents' evening in person or online, you have further question or have queries that would take longer than 5 minutes discussion that you contact us. Your first port of call, as always, is your child's head of house. You can then discuss your concerns and if necessary arrange a further meeting.

Drinking Water

As you know we ask that families provide their child(ren) with a clear water bottle which they can fill during the school day. This reduces the amount of plastic waste and supports young people's learning: we all need to be well hydrated to do our best.

Over the course of this term a number of water bottles have been "lost" and are in the school office awaiting collection. If they belong to your child/ren please ask them to collect at the school office.



Parent Council and 100 Club

The group is made up of parents/carers of children and young people attending school in almost all year groups who are interested in finding out more about how education works but also keen to support the school.

The next meeting of the Parent Council will be online through Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 1 November 2022 at 19.00. If you would like to join the Parent Council, please email the school office with your name and the name(s) of your

child(ren) to join online you will also need to give us an email address to send the invitation to the online meeting.

The meetings for the session are scheduled as follows:

Tuesday 29 November 2022
Tuesday 31 January 2023
Tuesday 28 March 2023
Tuesday 25 April 2023
Tuesday 30 May 2023 – AGM

The only fund raising the PC does is their 100 Club. You can download the form to join this from the school [website here](#) or use the bank details it contains to set up a direct debit using online banking.

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.

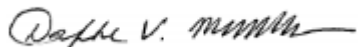
Pastoral Care

Braemar House: Miss Howard
Crathes House: Mrs Napier
Drum House: Mrs Walburn
Fyvie House: Mrs Marshall

Year Heads

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

Yours sincerely



Mrs D McWilliam
Head Teacher

Reporting and Parents' Evening Calendar 2022 – 23 – Parent and Carer Information

Year Group	Interim Report – no teacher comment Purpose and Dates	Full Report – includes teacher comment Purpose and Dates	Parents' Evening Purpose and Dates
S1	Settling in Interim Report including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effort, Behaviour and Homework in each subject area. • Issue Date 11 November 2022 	End of Session Report for each subject: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum for Excellence level achieved. • Effort, Behaviour and Homework. • Progress and next steps comments • Issue Date 2 June 2023 	Meet your child's Teachers and follow up on Interim Report if you have questions about the effort, behaviour, and homework. Teachers may also use this appointment to inform you about courses although this is on the school website. 30 November 2023 Face to Face in person
S2	Interim Report for each subject including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum for Excellence level achieved. • Effort, Behaviour and Homework. Teacher • Issue date 22 December 2022 	End of Session Report for each subject: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum for Excellence level achieved. • Effort, Behaviour and Homework • Progress and next steps comments • Issue Date 19 May 2023 	Progress including Curriculum for Excellence level achieved Next steps to meet full potential and discussion of potential pathways in the subject beyond choices already made for S3. 9 February 2023 Face to Face in person
S3	Interim Report for each subject including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum for Excellence level achieved. • Effort, Behaviour and Homework – please be honest with your assessment of this. • Issue Date 14 October 2022 	Final Report Progress and recommendations for Senior Phase (S4) for each subject: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum for Excellence level achieved. • Effort, Behaviour and Homework. • Progress and next steps • Recommendation • Issue Date 26 January 2023 	Follow-up to the final Report Issued on 28 January to discuss progress to date including effort, behaviour, and homework and to offer advice on course choice for Senior Phase – S4. 22 February 2023 Face to Face in person
S4- S6	Interim Report 1 for each National Course ¹ : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target Grade (can be amended) • Working Grade. • Effort, Behaviour and Homework • Issue date 6 October 2022 Interim Report 2 for each National Course: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimate Grade • Effort, Behaviour and Homework • Issue date 24 April 2023 	Full Report for each National Course (following assessment period including prelim exams): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results of assessments • Next steps to meet target grade • Effort, Behaviour and Homework. • Recommendation – although this is part of the separate course choice procedures. • Issue date 27 February 2023 	To discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • progress to date with national courses and next steps to meet target grade. • Discussion of reasons for working grade and what needs to be done to prepare for assessment(s) in January. Parents/carers choose one of the following options 9 November 2022 Online 17 November 2022 Online

¹ Please note that reports for courses undertaken at college and other schools may come at different times.