

Braeview Academy Newsletter

Dates for your Diary 2017-2018

Thursday	16 November 2017	In-Service Day 2
Friday	17 November 2017	In-Service Day 3
Friday	22 December 2017	End of Winter Term
Monday	8 January 2018	Start of Spring Term
Thursday	15 February 2018	In-Service Day 4
Friday	16 February 2018	Mid-Term Holiday
Monday	19 February 2018	Mid-Term Holiday
Friday	30 March 2018	End of Spring Term - Easter
Monday	16 April 2018	Start of Summer Term

Forthcoming Events

Monday	30 October–10 November	S4-S6 Senior Phase Assessment
Wednesday	15 November 2017	S4-S6 Parents Evening
Monday	20 November 2017	P7 Open Evening
Thursday	14 December (1.30-2.30pm)	Christmas Concert
Tuesday	9 January 2018	S3 Parents' Evening (4-6.30pm)
Monday	22 January 2018	S2 Parents' Evening (4-6.30pm)
Tuesday	13 February 2018	S4-S6 Parents Evening

Parent Council Meetings 2017– 2018

Wednesday	22 November 2017 (6-8pm)
Thursday	21 February 2018 (6-8pm)

PARENT COUNCIL

The office bearers can be contacted via the following email address
braeview@dundeparentcouncil.org

Braeview Academy,
Berwick Drive,
DUNDEE.
DD4 0NL
Telephone: 01382 438452
Head Teacher: Ms L Elder

email:

braeview@dundecity.gov.uk

Web Site:

<http://braeview.ea.dundecity.sch.uk>

Twitter:

[@BraeviewAcademy](https://twitter.com/BraeviewAcademy)



October, 2017

The School Aims

To achieve the highest results

To be the best that we can be

To narrow the gap

To make the difference



Head Boy – Darius Smith
 Head Girl – Caitlyn Rose

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome to the Head Teacher update on what has been happening at Braeview Academy. Last term, my first full term as Head Teacher, has been very busy for our pupils, staff and our education partners. In August, the school welcomed 131 new S1s. Since then, Guidance Teachers have taken the opportunity to meet with parents to welcome them to the school and to discuss how well their children have settled in.

Just before the October holidays, parents and carers met with their child's subject teachers at the S1 Parent Contact Evening. At this Parents' Evening, parents and carers also enjoyed a family learning session on Growth Mind-set, delivered by Jamie McBrearty, Dundee's Growth Mind-set Manager.

The new draft School Improvement Plan has been published and is available on the school website for consultation with parents, carers, and community education partners. This one-year plan details school improvements planned for session 2017-18. The aims of our plan include providing opportunities for pupils to improve their Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing and to increase the number of opportunities our pupils have to develop employability skills and undertake experiences in the workplace. This year there is also a special focus on mental and emotional wellbeing and adopting a growth mind-set, or "can do" attitude, to learning and achievement. Your comments and suggestions for the plan are most welcome and you can feed these to the school via the Parent Council, by emailing the school or contacting me directly, by telephone.

This year has seen more improvements in the quality of National Qualifications gained by our pupils in S4, S5 and S6, with an increase in the numbers of pupils gaining National 5 and Higher Grades.

57 prefects from S5 and S6 were appointed in August. The Senior Prefect Team comprise of Head Boy Darius Smith, Head Girl Caitlyn Rose, Deputy Head Boy Jordan Burnett, and Deputy Head Girl Brooke Denyer who coordinate their supervision duties around the school. The Junior and Senior Pupil Councils, comprising of representatives from all year groups, have now been established. Both groups have already met to discuss how pupils can work with school staff to improve the school.

Uniform

Pupils are strongly encouraged to be involved in the life of our school, to be proud of the school and to identify with the school by wearing the school uniform.

Uniform consists of:

- Trousers/skirt – black
- Shirt/blouse – white
- Pullover/sweatshirt/cardigan – black
- School tie – maroon
- Shoes – black
- School Blazer (S4-S6)
- PE Kit – shorts, t-shirt, trainers. Swimming shorts (boys)/Swimming Costume (girls)

EMA Forms (2017/18), Free School Meals & Clothing Grant Forms – Available from the office.

School Ties (£6) - Available from the school office

Parking/Dropping off and Picking up Children

Please remember the dangers involved when dropping off and picking up your children. We would appreciate it if pupils were dropped off and picked up outwith the school grounds as the brae and car park can become very congested at peak times. This puts our children at unnecessary risk.

The first meeting of the Parent Council took place in September. The new Chairperson, Lorna Thomson, took up post as did the new Vice Chair, Shona Sneddon, and the Finance secretary, Shannon Devasahayam. The next meeting is on 22 November at 6pm. The school really values the views and input of parents and carers at Parent Council. Come along to the next meeting if you can.

During the last week in August S4 pupils went out to the work place to undertake a week's work experience. September saw the Fresher's Fair, which introduced all pupils to the huge number and variety of clubs and activities available in school and in the community both in the evenings and at weekends. Pupils embarked on the Lift-Off Programme, designed to support young people who might wish to move on to further study at university and a group of seniors had a fantastic experience on an exchange trip to Clermont-Ferrand in France, as part of our link with Michelin.

The Anne Frank Exhibition, designed to inform young people about the evil repercussions of hatred, prejudice and discrimination, visited the school in September. A film crew attended the school and several of our pupil guides appeared on the STV news, showing pupils, parents, carers and guests photographs and documents and telling the story of Anne and her family.

These are just a few of the many events and activities that have taken place since the return from the summer break.

For the latest up-to-date information about school activities, please follow us on Twitter @BraeviewAcademy, go onto the website braeview@ea.dundeecity.sch.uk or follow us on the Braeview school app, coming soon.

Ms L Elder

Head Teacher

Inspiring Females event at Michelin



On 27 October, seven third year girls attended the Inspiring Females event at Michelin. All of the speakers were from Dundee and all had very different stories to tell. A common factor was that with hard work and being prepared to adapt to the changing conditions in the employment market, it is possible to achieve anything.

Our pupils spoke to women in the emergency services, the NHS, the prison service and social work. A forensic anthropologist and a lawyer also gave useful advice for subject choices. All with the exception of one had a change of career, one having gone from the Police to running her own alternative therapy business (even offering Alien Therapy!).

All of the girls agreed it had been a beneficial day and had given them ideas prior to choosing their subjects later in the year.

Modern Studies Update

S3 – Charlie Scroggie is currently working on the Braeview Academy entry in the Harry McLevy Memorial Award, a citywide research competition for S3 pupils. Fingers crossed.

S4 – Most S4 pupils will take part in a series of workshops in the run up to Christmas on young people and the law led by university undergraduates from Street Law.

S4/S6 – Police Scotland's Sgt. Menmuir will speak to both S4 and S5/6 pupils as part of their course on Crime and Law. Pupils will also have the opportunity to visit the court in Bell Street in November.

S5/6 – Higher pupils will have the opportunity to attend the annual Higher Modern Studies in Abertay University in December.

Enrichment S5/6 – Pupils had the opportunity to participate in two sessions led by representatives from the STUC.

French Exchange Trip to Clermont Ferrand, France – 23-30 September 2017

Braeview Academy secured a grant from the British Council (Charles de Gaulle fund), which has allowed the school to participate in an exchange programme. Miss Adair and four senior pupils, Katie Thorburn, Amy Thomson, Caitlin Rose and Taylor Mitchell had the fantastic opportunity of spending the week in France experiencing the language and culture in a real-life situation. The pupils had the opportunity to learn about the French school system with our partner school,



Lycée Amedée Gasquet and their exchange partners. Pupils were able to visit the Michelin Headquarters and museum in order to learn about the history of the company as well as life in the workplace. Both their language and teamwork skills were greatly enhanced thanks to this visit, and they are all looking forward to welcoming their French partners to Braeview when they carry out their reciprocal visit in November.

S1-S3 BGE Homework/Activities Club

All pupils in S1-S3 are invited along to our after school club on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Staff and Pupil Support Workers will be available to help with homework and offer support with Literacy and Numeracy. Come along and get involved in new activities such as practical cookery and science. We will meet in the breakfast room immediately after school for snacks and a drink then go along to the library.

Bring a friend and learn something new!

Drama Department Updates

A group of pupils from S1 -6 have recently started working on a media based project with internationally renowned dance company, Shaper Caper. It is not too late to get involved if you are interested in film making, editing with Final Cut Pro, directing or acting. If you would like to take part or find out more information about the project, join us in the Drama Department on Tuesdays 3.40 – 4.40pm.

We were delighted to learn that, after interview, the following pupils have been successful in gaining places on Dundee Rep Theatre's Enterprise project. Well done to:

Andromeda Gibb (Acting)
Hannah Gillespie (Creative Learning)
Chloe Kindlen (Dance)
Sean Kindlen (Acting)
Erin Malcolm (Creative Learning)
Isla Smith (Dance)

National 5 and Higher Drama pupils recently enjoyed a visit to Dundee Rep to see the popular touring production of Tony Roper's 'The Steamie'.

We are looking forward to this year's Christmas Show at The Rep with extra excitement this year as Phoenix Gibb (S3) will be performing alongside the professional company in 'A Christmas Carol.'

Also, Congratulations to Phoenix Gibb who was 'Star of the Month' for October.

Dr Bike Day

The school has also been involved in a number of projects to encourage more pupils to cycle to school.

We had our S3 mechanics pupils working in partnership with Sustrans and Dundee college to offer a Dr Bike Day. This involved a number of pupils and staff bikes being serviced.



Cycling at Braeview

Braeview Academy is the first Cycle Friendly Secondary School in Dundee. We aim to encourage pupils to cycle safely to and from school, and in the community. We now have safe storage for bikes at school and encourage pupils to cycle to school when they can.



As part of our development S1-S3 pupils recently completed a pilot project for Bikeability Level 3 with Cycling Scotland.



Pupils learned and evaluated the theory aspects of riding safely on local and busier roads, to ensure that they stay safe and can cope with cycling in heavier traffic. They then completed a four mile ride negotiating busy roundabouts and junctions, alongside learning the rules of the road. All 18 pupils passed their Bikeability Level 3 with flying colours.

This term Cycling Scotland will be training senior pupils on driving amongst vulnerable road users.

Modern Languages Trip to Discovery Film Festival

On Tuesday, 31 October and Friday, 3 November, a total of 50 pupils, accompanied by Miss Adair, Miss Wells and Mrs Bennett from the ML Department, attended the screenings of two French films. 'Ma Vie de Courgette', a Swiss animation about a police officer and some new friends who help an orphan adjust to life at a foster home, was the film for our S2 group on Tuesday.



Set during WWII, 'Le Voyage de Fanny' was the film chosen for our S3 and Senior group. It tells the real life story of Fanny, a 12-year-old Jewish girl, who, having been taken into hiding far from her parents, takes care of her two younger sisters until she is forced to flee before becoming the head of a group of eight children heading across occupied France.



Each film was thoroughly engaging, and enjoyed by both pupils and staff alike. Pupils were able to test both their French language listening skills and their English reading skills as the films were subtitled in English with French audio.

RYLA experience

Congratulations to our Deputy Head Girl Brooke Denyer who delivered a fantastic presentation on her RYLA experience at Rotary on Tuesday, 19 September.



P7 Transition Programme – Learning Together, Living Together in a Global World

November saw the first of four groups of P7 pupils from our associated primaries visit Braeview for a morning to take part in activities designed to enable them to navigate the school; meet some of school staff; work in various subject departments; get to know our Community Youth Workers; and have fun. The morning started for the Mill of Mains pupils with a welcome from Ms Elder, Head Teacher, and Mrs McPherson, the Depute Head Teacher, leading transition activities.

The theme of these transition mornings is Learning Together, Living Together in a Global World. Pupils enjoyed the Food Around the Globe session where, amongst other foods, they designed and made pizzas. They completed an activity called Survival in a Paper Bag World, where they worked in groups to create paper bags to hold rice. They also enjoyed taking part in the Dance Around the World activity delivered by the Shaper Caper Youth Dance School. We look forward to welcoming P7 groups from Fintry, Ballumbie and Longhaugh primaries over the course of this month.



Tae Kwon Do

Robert Williams with his Tae Kwon Do medals from the Pan European Champs, 15 - 17 yrs. What a Superb achievement. His international tie on its way.

PE Department

Football

The U14s Football team have won their first two games of the League defeating Craigie and St Paul's.



Netball

Our U14s Netball team have qualified for the superleague following a win a draw.



Karate

Jordan Devasahayam taking Gold Kata, Silver and bronze Kumite medals at the 4th Kanzen Cup.



Jordan came was place 3rd in the 8th International Czech Open Karate Championship 2017 in Prague.

A great achievement.