



**10 October 2021**

Dear Parent/Carer,

I can't believe that we are now at the October school holidays already. It has been great being back in our school building and getting back to a new normal.

Despite our usual challenges related to COVID, I am delighted about the progress our school has made since August, and I reported this to our parent council at our September AGM. In term 2, I will be sharing our school improvement report with you – which includes a full summary of our progress throughout last session and feedback on the overall attainment and achievement of our young people.

This term, we were involved in the local fundraiser, Radio Tay Cash for Kids, and we raised over £1450. This will make a huge difference for our children and young people locally. The fundraiser gave us all a chance to come together again, as a learning community, and be involved in some great fun organising bake sales, raffles, competitions and even sliming me! These were experiences that we've all sorely missed these last 18 months, and it was lovely to see these types of fun school events becoming normal again.

School trips have also restarted. Every S1 pupil had a 'house' experience with their peers and guidance teacher, engaging in teambuilding and continuing to develop skills as we continue their transition from P7 to S1. Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants completed their expedition days, and pupils took part in outdoor learning experiences. A group of S2 girls won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Dundee Schools Hydrogen Challenge and will now compete at a national level during COP26.

During the last week of term, we issued school reports to all S1 to S6 pupils. The covering letter attached to each report outlines our intentions for reporting on your child's progress, and the planned opportunities for parents' nights and information sessions, throughout the year. I do hope these key dates will help you plan your year and allow you to keep on track with your child's learning.

Under Scottish Government guidance, we must take each term as it comes. Our staffing levels continue to provide challenges as we manage COVID related absences, but I am delighted that we have new staff joining our Maths and Modern Languages department, on permanent contracts, as we start term 2. However, please be assured that we continue to be relentless in our approach to filling any short or long term staffing vacancies and I thank you for your understanding regarding these challenges.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support and patience as we continue to navigate our school through these uncertain times. However, I am looking forward to a great year ahead and creating as much opportunity to give your child the best possible experience in their learning and life at Baldragon Academy.

Thank you, please stay safe and have a lovely Autumn break.

Yours faithfully,

**Mr H McAninch**  
Headteacher