 Braidside Integrated Primary

 and Nursery School

 ***87 Frys Road, Ballymena Co. Antrim BT43 7EN***

***028 25647899*** ***Principal: J McAuley***

**www.braidside.co.uk**

9/1/19

Dear Parents,

 Welcome back to the new term. We hope you all enjoyed the holidays and were able to rest and enjoy the time with friends and family.

**OPEN ENROLMENT 2019- 2020**

 On the 6th December 2018, we held our Nursery and Primary 1 Open Day for prospective parents and children for the academic year 2019-20. This year, for the first time, applications for Nursery and P1 will be made online using the Parent Portal on the Education Authority website ([www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk)). Applications opened on Wednesday 2nd January and will close at midnight on Thursday 31st January 2018. Information regarding school admissions criteria, key dates as well supporting documentation will also be found on the website.

To assist parents in making their applications we will be holding an **Information Session on Thursday 17th January @ 9:15am in Block 7.** This session will take approx. 1 hour. If parents are unable to attend and require assistance they should contact the school office and we will be happy to help.

Parents will then have until the midday on 8th February to provide a copy of their child’s birth certificate and any other documentation to their first preference school. Parents will be notified by letter on 10th May 2019 of the outcome of their application.

If you know of a new parent in the area or family members who may be interested in applying for a place at Braidside, please share this information accordingly. Given this is a new process, we are happy to assist parents with their applications. Thank you in advance.

**PARENT INTERVIEWS**

![C:\Users\jmcauley506\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\MT03KZCU\blog-parent1[1].jpg]()During this half-term we will hold Parent Interviews to allow parents to meet with their child’s class teacher to discuss pupil progress. Parents will soon receive information regarding Parent Interviews (including reply slip) which will be offered on the afternoon of ***Tuesday 12th February, Wednesday 13th February and Thursday 14th February***.

Due to ongoing industrial by a number of teacher unions, it is necessary to hold these interviews during the school day. Therefore, to facilitate interviews, school will end on each of these days at 1pm for all pupils. Children will have their lunch in school as usual but should be collected at 1pm, to allow teachers to begin meetings promptly. Unfortunately, transport will not be available on these dates and those who travel on the EA/ Etherson’s bus should make alternate arrangements.

We are grateful for your cooperation in this matter.

**P7 TRANSFER INFORMATION SESSION**

At the end of this month, the transfer procedure will begin for our P7 parents and children. There will be an **Information Session for parents on Wednesday 23rd January 2019@ 7pm in the School Assembly Hall** to give relevant information on the process and to provide parents with individual packs containing Transfer forms and supporting documents. We would encourage all P7 parents to attend. Parents will also have the opportunity to have an interview with the Principal if required; letters with further details will be issued in due course.

Please continue to check the school website for any letters, updates and key dates on the school calendar.

**SCHOOL WEBSITE**

 Over the next week our school website will be updated with key dates for this term. This will include dates for Shared Education sessions, swimming, Confirmation for our P7 RCRE group, a new project for Student Council, as well as Parent Interviews. We would encourage parents to visit the website ([www.braidside.co.uk](http://www.braidside.co.uk)) and School Facebook page regularly, to keep up to date with school information and events.

We will also have an update on our new school build; as the project continues to make good progress.

Thank you for your continued interest and support.

Yours faithfully,

J McAuley

Half-term holidays: Monday 18th- Wednesday 20th February, 2019 (inclusive)