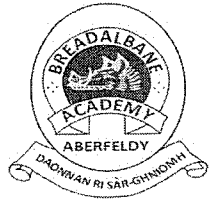
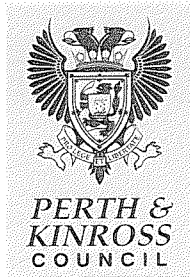


1st February 2018



John Devine M.A. (Hons); M.Ed; SQH
Headteacher

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Dear Parent/Carer

Current Staffing Difficulties

I am writing to make you aware of significant staff absences that we are currently experiencing in the primary. These have involved a wide range of staff, both teachers and pupil support assistants, and in many cases have been quite long term. The situation has lately been compounded by the absence of Mrs Marshall, our depute headteacher with responsibility for primary, who will remain off until the end of next week.

The shortage, both local and county-wide, of supply teachers has made it a very great challenge to cover these many absences. However, I am really proud of the efforts made by the primary staff team in pulling together and coming up with solutions to the many problems of staffing we have faced daily over the last few weeks, and I believe that as a consequence the impact of absences on pupils' learning has been minimal.

This week I have relocated to the primary school to support Mrs Jenkins, Acting-PT, who is now largely class-committed, with the leadership of the primary, and I would hope that together we can ensure the ongoing smooth running of the school. I am also hopeful that we will soon fill the existing vacancy for a P2 class teacher and will also shortly see a significant improvement in the absence situation. If, however, you have any concerns in the meantime about aspects of the work of the primary or your own child's experience, please do get in touch.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J Devine', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

John Devine
Headteacher



Education & Children's Services
Executive Director (Education & Children's Services) Sheena Devlin

