



Braeside School

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HEADMISTRESS

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November 2015

Dear Parents

I hope that you had an enjoyable break with your daughters and that everyone feels ready for the challenges that lie ahead in the run up to the festive season.

Harvest Festival

On the afternoon before we broke for the holiday it was truly wonderful to see so many Junior School parents at the United Reform Church to witness and enjoy our celebration of harvest. Over 130 Parents and friends filled the venue and were entertained by pupils with a variety of poetry and seasonal songs. The addition of a dance performance this year was also hugely enjoyable. We had on display a very generous array of dried goods which after the event were taken and gifted to the Salvation Army who were very grateful to receive our donations.

Oak-Tree Fireworks

It was lovely to see so many of you at this event which clearly demonstrated the extra dimension that being part of a group of schools can bring. Special thanks go to FOBS volunteers who helped to run two of the stalls and helping to make this event such a success.

Iceland Visit

Our residential visit to Iceland with a party of Senior pupils during the holiday was a huge success providing awe and wonder for everyone. Snow falling whilst in outside hot tubs at Vik in the south of the island was one of a number of incredible memories that the pupils reflected to the staff at the end of the visit.

Many thanks go to Mrs Wroblewski and Mrs Beadle for their support in accompanying me on this visit.

Operation Christmas Child

Many Junior parents were kind enough to take boxes to fill in support of this charity during the holiday and we will be collecting these this week ready for them to be taken to our nearest collection centre. It would be most helpful if boxes could be with us by Friday 13 November.

Eleanor Laing's Christmas Card Competition

Some entries have been handed in to Class Teachers in the Junior School and Ms Coleman in the Senior School, but may still be submitted by Thursday of this week (12 November) so that they can be forwarded to Eleanor's office in Loughton.

Support for AT (Ataxia Telangiectasia)

Two former pupils who are now at Quest Professional College in London have come in to school to ask for our support. As part of their course they have to identify and work with a small charity to raise funds. The task is not dissimilar to those challenges featured on "The Apprentice" and they are ambitious to raise as much money as they can. A special assembly will be held on Monday 9 November followed by a non-uniform day, on the Senior site, on Thursday 12 November to raise funds on behalf of the charity.

Skills London 2015 Careers Event at Excel East London

Year 11 pupils will be attending this event on Friday 13 November. This important annual event gives our pupils the opportunity of investigating higher education options and opportunities to undergo training with a wide range of prestigious companies.

Children in Need

Pupils on the Junior site will be familiar with "Barley Bear" and we have been delighted to have him with us for the last year. However we all feel that he needs a new caring home and so think that it would be a good idea to hold a raffle on Children in Need Day featuring several bears as prizes!

Tickets will be on sale from the 9 November at 50p each and we hope that the girls will be keen to participate. All of the money raised will go to the BBC appeal taking place on the evening of 13 November. We are combining this with a non-uniform Day, on the Junior site, on Friday 13 November.

Staff News

I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Chloe Moon has been appointed to act as school SENDCo from January 2016. She is an experienced colleague moving from the state sector and will also be contributing to the wider development of the school by joining the Senior Leadership Team.

Mrs Sue Bickford has now joined us to take over as our new Early Years Coordinator and will be bringing a wealth of experience to this role from her time in the state sector and in more recent times with other Oak-Tree settings. Mrs Braithwaite will be extending our commitment to teach French in the school and will also be working in supporting individual children who have additional learning needs. These are exciting developments for all concerned and I hope that they will all enjoy long and rewarding associations with the school.

ISA Autumn Study Conference

Mrs Beadle and I will be attending this conference on behalf of the school on Friday 13 and Saturday 14 November in Daventry. The association, which the school is proud to be associated with, is growing rapidly and is maintaining a strong voice on behalf of the Independent sector with the Department for Education. The meeting allows senior leaders within schools to participate in wide ranging discussions about many topical issues affecting all good schools.

FOBS AGM

As you will have seen from our recent email, the date of the FOBS AGM has been postponed until Thursday 26 November. After two years masterminding and guiding social and fund-raising events our three Officers, Mr Basil, Mrs Boyle and Mr Foster will be standing down and we will therefore be hoping to elect enthusiastic parents to replace them as Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. With two Committee meetings and an average of one social event per term the duties are not too onerous and are also an excellent way to enter more fully into the life of the school and to get to know other parents. Please consider whether you would be prepared to stand for any of the posts and, if so, get in touch with Peter Basil via the FOBS email braesidefobs@outlook.com.

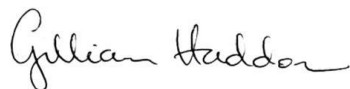
Future Dates and Events for your Diary

Tuesday 10 November	Meeting for Parents re new GCSE Reforms 7pm
Thursday 12 November	Senior Non Uniform Day to support Action for AT
Thursday 12 November	Year 6 Parents Evening
Friday 13 November	Year 11 Skills Day at Excel Centre
Friday 13 November	Junior Non-Uniform Day for Children in Need
Friday 13 November	Epping Forest Parliamentary Debate (evening)
Tuesday 24 November	Year 7 Parents Evening

Thursday 26 November	Years 4 & 5 Visit to British Museum (to be confirmed)
Thursday 26 November	Year 11 Visit to Science Live! GCSE Event
Thursday 26 November	FOBS AGM in Senior Hall 7pm
Tuesday 1 December	In-house Performance of "Macbeth" am Senior Hall
Tuesday 1 December	Year 8 Parents Evening
Thursday 3 December	LAMDA Exams – Senior students
Friday 4 December	Senior Choir participation at Buckhurst Hill Christmas Fair
Saturday 5 December	FOBS Christmas Fayre Junior Hall 12pm to 3pm
Tuesday 8 December	Kindergarten-Year 5 visit to "Aladdin" at Queens Theatre Hornchurch
Friday 11 December	Junior Christmas Concert at St James' URC Hall pm
Tuesday 15 December	House Drama Performances for Parents in Senior Hall (evening)
Wednesday 16 December	House Music and Drama Competition in Senior Hall
Friday 18 December	Last Day of Term : School finishes after End of Term Assembly at 11.45 am from the Junior site
Tuesday 12 January 2016	First Day of Spring Term

With kind regards

Yours sincerely



Gillian Haddon
Headmistress

