



Braeside School

130 High Road, Buckhurst Hill
Essex IG9 5SD

Tel Seniors: 020 8504 1133
Tel Juniors: 020 8504 0021

HEADMISTRESS

MRS CLAIRE OSBORN MSc., B.A. (HONS), PGCE

E-mail: enquiries@braesideschool.co.uk

Website: www.braesideschool.co.uk

Monday 5 September 2016

Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

I am delighted to be writing my first letter to you as Headmistress of Braeside School. I consider it a great privilege to take on the leadership of Braeside and I'm excited to see all that this new year will bring. I am very much looking forward to spending time with the pupils, having more opportunities to meet with parents and building on the initial meetings I had with many of you in the last academic year.

I hope that you enjoyed a relaxing summer break with your families and that you all share my sense of anticipation for the forthcoming year. I hope the girls are looking forward to coming back to school on Wednesday and being in their new classes. The staff have all been in over the holidays preparing for the start of term and I can see that much thought has gone into planning the curriculum, as well as making the classrooms inviting places in which to learn.

School begins at 8.40am on Wednesday 7 September on both sites for all pupils. If your child starts school this week, I hope both they and you settle quickly into the Braeside community. If you have any questions please feel free to phone, email or speak to your child's form tutor; I am sure we will be able to help the transition run smoothly.

Summer Holiday Work

Mr Hagger emailed parents last week with an update on the progress of the ambitious building projects that are ongoing on both sites. Much has been achieved over the summer. The work has not only made the school look brighter, more spacious and inviting, but it will also have a positive impact on the quality of learning and experience for pupils.

You will notice the difference the moment you walk into both the juniors and the seniors.

There is some finishing off to be done on both sites, but the girls will be able to use the new EYFS area, art room and computing room on the juniors from the start of term. Likewise on the senior site, the Music and Drama studio on top of the science block will be operational from the start of term.

Building Developments this Term

We are installing a walkway on the junior site from the playground to the ground floor, so that pupils and teachers do not have to disturb the Early Years classrooms on their way into the building. The walkway will be finished in two weeks' time, so for the first part of the term pupils will enter the building through the main front door with their teachers at the end of break and lunch time.

The building team will begin work on the school kitchen on the senior site next week. For the first week of term the seniors should enter and leave the school site in the usual way. However, once the kitchen project is underway, there will be a new gate for the girls to use in Ardmore Lane, opposite the science block.

Summer Exam Results

GCSE results this year were very encouraging with 86% of grades awarded being a C grade or above and 31% of grades being A* or A. Pupils and staff were delighted with the results, and we wish the students every success as they move on to study at Sixth Form.

New Members of Staff

We welcome a number of excellent new teachers and assistants to Braeside this term:

Kindergarten key worker	Mrs Glasgow
Y1 class teacher	Mrs Wallman
Y2 class teacher	Miss Waghorne
Y5 class teacher	Miss Grant
Junior Breakfast Club supervisor	Mrs Parrott
Junior After School Club supervisor	Mrs Granger
Head of Maths and Y7 tutor	Mrs Alahi
Maths teacher (Y6 and Y9)	Mrs Burgess
French and Spanish teacher and Y7 tutor	Mrs Hucbourg
Drama teacher (Y10)	Mrs Kazim
Assistant Head and Head of PE/Games	Mrs Kirk
Computing and Business teacher	Mrs Puchalla
Music and Drama teacher (Y6-9)	Mr Reich-Storer
Senior Breakfast Club supervisor	Ms Jackson

Senior Breakfast Club

I am delighted that from Wednesday 7 September we are offering a supervised senior breakfast club on site for Y6 – Y11 from 7.30-8.10am. This is available in the hall and will be a continental style breakfast including cereals, toast, pastries, yoghurt and fruit. Water, juice, tea and hot chocolate are on offer to drink.

Pupils can come to the hall from 7.30am and service will end at 8.10am. Pupils do not need to pre-book, they simply sign in with Ms Jackson on arrival in the hall. The cost will be £3.50 per day, and parents will be invoiced each half-term.

I hope our senior pupils will enjoy using this new facility.

Instrumental Lessons: Music Booklets

We are introducing a new 'Music Practice Notebook' for pupils who have music tuition with the peripatetic music teachers. The teacher will give the booklets out in the first lesson and there will be weekly feedback from the lesson for parents, as well as information about progress and practice. We hope that parents will find this helpful. There is also space for parents to make a comment in the book.

New Daily Timetable

As you are all aware, we have a new structure to the school day this term. The day starts at 8.40am with registration on both sites. This is followed by either an assembly or form time. The school day finishes at 3.30pm on the junior site and 3.45pm on the senior site. Drop-off and pick-up arrangements remain the same.

Morning Routines for Senior Pupils

Senior pupils will have areas to go in the morning if they arrive at school after 8.00am and are not attending the Breakfast Club:

Y6 and Y7	RS Room
Y8 and Y9	School Hall
Y10 and Y11	English Room

Pupils will then go to their form rooms at 8.40am for registration and the start of the school day:

Y6 (Mrs Kirk)	RS Room	Y9 (Mrs Jermutus)	Science Lab 1
Y7 (Mrs Hucbourg/ Mrs Alahi)	Languages Room	Y10 (Mrs Murrell)	English Room
Y8 (Mrs Wroblewski)	Geography Room	Y11 (Ms Coleman)	Art Room

Junior Drop-in Mornings

Once every half-term there will be a 'drop-in' morning for the children from Kindergarten to Y5, to which you are invited. On these mornings you come into the classroom and your children will show you the work they have been doing. These 'drop-ins' finish promptly at 9.00am so that the first lesson of the day can begin. We will ring a hand bell when the session is over and your cooperation in leaving promptly is much appreciated so that the children do not miss learning time. The 'drop-ins' are not times for individual teacher feedback about your child's progress, so I would ask you to arrange an individual meeting with the class teacher at an alternative time if there are particular issues you wish to discuss. We hope you will enjoy the opportunity to visit the class and see the work.

School Uniform Reminders

There is a clear uniform list on the website for pupils at Braeside School and I would like to ask parents to ensure that pupils wear the full and correct uniform to school every day.

Blazers are a compulsory part of the school uniform for all pupils and should be worn to school every day.

In the seniors, girls' skirts should be knee-length. It is not appropriate to have short skirts for school.

From January all pupils should wear black shoes. This term pupils may still wear their current brown shoes, but these should be replaced for January 2017.

Absits from PE/Games Lessons

If your child is in school but unable to participate in their PE or Games lesson, please send them into school with a note for the PE staff explaining the reason. Please also ensure that they have their PE kit with them because they need to wear it and go to the PE lesson with the rest of the class, even though they will not participate.

Mrs Kirk will be sending home a letter to parents explaining her expectations for PE, including the requirement that pupils wear the correct PE kit, as listed in the uniform list.

Homework Matters

We will be sending home homework timetables this year so that parents are informed about the programme for homework in school. Page 12 of the Parent Handbook explains the importance of homework and teachers will be setting work to support those aims.

Curriculum, Teaching and Learning

We are updating the curriculum in both the juniors and the seniors to provide a number of new, challenging and interesting learning opportunities across the curriculum. We will also be introducing regular assessments of learning each half-term so that we can assess the progress each pupil is making and set relevant and challenging targets for their next steps. You will be hearing more about this as the term continues.

Open Day Wednesday 5 October 2016

The school has its main Open Day on Wednesday 5 October. The junior site is open from 9.15 – 11.00am and the seniors from 6.00pm. The school day runs as usual for seniors, but many pupils will be asked to return at 5.30pm to participate. Some pupils will be in classrooms, others will be guides showing visitors and prospective families around the school. I hope pupils enjoy talking about school and sharing their experiences.

Current parents are also welcome to attend and to look around the school. Junior parents find this particularly helpful as they have the opportunity to learn more about life in the senior part of the school.

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 13 September	Roald Dahl Day at the Junior School
Thursday 15 September	Y11 & Parents 16+ Options Meeting
Wednesday 21 September	French Residential Visit Parents Meeting
Thursday 22 September	Individual and Class Photographs
Thursday 22 September	Introduction to GCSEs for Y10 Parents Meetings
Thursday 22 September – Friday 23 September	Oak Tree Group Y3 Joint Overnight Camp at Oaklands School
Friday 23 September	“Genes for Jeans” Fundraising Day
Monday 26 September	Y10 Epping Forest Volunteering morning
Tuesday 27 September	Y10 & Y11 Braeside & Normanhurst Drama Groups trip to “Threepenny Opera” at the National Theatre
Thursday 29 September	Kindergarten – Y5 Drop-In Session for Parents
Thursday 29 September	Y6 & Y7 Informal Parents Meeting to Meet the Teachers
Wednesday 5 October	Braeside Juniors Open Morning 9.15 – 11.00 am
Wednesday 5 October	Braeside Seniors Open Evening 6.00-8.00 pm
Tuesday 11 October	Yr 10 & Yr 11 GCSE Geography Group Field Trip to Walton on the Naze
Wednesday 19 October	Junior Parents Evening
Thursday 20 October	Junior Harvest Assembly Performance
Thursday 20 October	Junior Parents Evening
Friday 21 October – Monday 24 October	Y8 & Y9 French Residential Trip

I look forward with great anticipation to the forthcoming school year. I hope you and your children are also looking forward to all the exciting opportunities and challenges to come.

The Leadership Team, your child's form tutor or I are very happy to discuss any questions or concerns that may arise, so please email or contact the school office if you would like to meet with us.

With my very best wishes

Yours sincerely



Claire Osborn
Headmistress



OAK-TREE SCHOOLS is the group name of:

BRAESIDE SCHOOL, BUCKHURST HILL • COOPERSALE HALL SCHOOL, EPPING • NORMANHURST SCHOOL, NORTH CHINGFORD • OAKLANDS SCHOOL, LOUGHTON

HEAD OFFICE ADDRESS: 6-8 ALBION HILL, LOUGHTON, ESSEX IG10 4RA

GROUP MANAGING PRINCIPAL: MR MATTHEW HAGGER B.A. (HONS), M.ED., PGCE PRINCIPALS: MR NICHOLAS HAGGER M.A. (OXON), MRS ANN HAGGER CERT. ED.

Braeside School is the trading name of Braeside School Ltd; registered in England at 6 Albion Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 4RA; company number 0783067

