



Braeside School

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HEADMISTRESS

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

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October 2016

Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

I hope your children have enjoyed the first few weeks of term, particularly if you joined us for the first time in September. The pupils have settled very well and I have been delighted to see them rising to the challenge of the new school year, and embracing the changes we have introduced.

The newsletter published last week gave a sense of how much is going on in school. We have been very busy! As you know from the letter sent by Mr Hagger, this weekend building work began on the new school kitchens on the senior site.

Ms Moon sent home a letter on Friday to say that there is a temporary gate for the girls to use while building takes place, further up Ardmore Road. There is a bark path across the grass for the pupils to use to reach the main building while the project is underway.

Although there may be some noise disturbance as the project progresses, this will be limited as far as possible during the school day, with much work taking place over the weekends and holidays. It will be exciting to see the new kitchen taking shape over the forthcoming weeks. The plans are up on the boards outside my office on the ground floor of the main building, if parents want to see them.

New Initiatives this Term

The first Drop-in Morning took place on the junior site last week. There was a lovely buzz around the building as parents spent time in classrooms looking at work and hearing more about what the children have been learning. The event seems to have been very well-received and I'd like to thank those parents who emailed us with your feedback. We will be having a Drop-in each half-term.

Junior curriculum overviews were also sent home last week. We hope these enable you to have a good idea about what the children are learning this term, so that you are able to support at home. We have also included some information about the junior homework routines.

I very much enjoyed meeting Year 10 parents at the GCSE information evening and Year 11 parents at the Sixth Form Transition evening. I hope both of these evenings helped inform you about the next steps in your daughter's education.

We also had a 'meet the teachers' event for our Year 6 and Year 7 parents on the senior site last week. Pupils introduced their parents to the subject and form tutors and the hall was full of animated conversation over tea and coffee.

Open day Wednesday 5 October: 9.15-10.30am on the junior site; 6.00-8.00pm on the senior site

Open Day is a highlight in the school year, as I am sure you will agree. We are using a large number of pupils on the senior site chosen from Year 6 up to Year 11. Some will be touring prospective families; others will be

volunteering in classrooms. Whatever job each pupil is doing, I am sure they will be wonderful ambassadors for the school.

On the junior site, year 5 will be the guides and they will be showing our prospective families round the school, while lessons are taking place.

Current parents are welcome to visit on Open Day and look around the school. In particular if your child will be moving from the junior site up to the senior site in the next year or so, this can provide an opportunity to see and hear more about the different parts of the school. You will also be able to see the developments made to the site since the summer, including the redeveloped laboratories and the lovely new music and drama studio.

Parent Coffee Mornings

Mr Hagger and I will be hosting parent coffee mornings again this year. These take place on Wednesday mornings from 8.45-9.45am, beginning after the half-term break on the junior site:

Wednesday 9 November	Year 2
Wednesday 23 November	Year 1
Wednesday 30 November	Kindergarten and Reception
Wednesday 7 December	Years 3, 4, 5

FOBS Junior Christmas Card Designs

Your child's Christmas card designs will go home with a detailed letter and order form on the last day of half term. The company is Art Projects for Schools and all cards purchased will raise funds for FOBS to purchase equipment for us.

FOBS Christmas Fayre

The Christmas Fayre is taking place after school on the junior site on Friday 25 November. This is always a lovely event and the Committee will be in touch with more information shortly.

Junior Site Pick-Up from Extra-Curricular Clubs

May I remind parents picking up from externally provided clubs that only the back gate will be opened and the club leader will bring the girls into the playground for you to collect. This includes senior children doing clubs on the junior site. Only After School Club children are collected from the front door.

Oak-Tree Schools Annual Fireworks Display

Parents have already received a letter about this lovely event. The display will take place on Sunday 13 November 2016 from 4.30pm to 6.30pm and will be held in the grounds of Oaklands School in Loughton. It is an excellent evening for all the family.

Due to the enormous demand (over 1000 tickets were sold last year), tickets will only be available to purchase before the event, and should be bought by Monday 17 October.

All profits from the evening will go back to the Parents' Associations, with the teams from Oaklands, Normanhurst, Coopersale Hall and Braeside joining together to help run the event. If you would like to join us, please remember to contact the office about tickets before the deadline.

Senior House Drama Competition 2016

I hope that your children have been talking to you about the annual House Drama competition. Each House is preparing their drama piece. For the first time this year, we are inviting parents to come and watch the event at

Lopping Hall, Loughton. This will provide the opportunity for parents to watch all four performances and for the girls to perform in a larger space on a stage.

You will be receiving information after half-term about how to purchase tickets for the evening, which takes place on Friday 25 November.

Forest Casualwear Uniform Supplier

If you're looking to pick up some items of uniform from our school outfitter, Forest Casualwear, over the half term break please be aware that the shop will be closed for annual stocktaking on Wednesday 26 October and Wednesday 2 November.

Forthcoming Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 5 October	Braeside Juniors Open Morning
Wednesday 5 October	Braeside Seniors Open Evening
Thursday 6 October	U14 and U16 netball match at St Johns, Epping
Tuesday 11 October	Years 10 & 11 GCSE Geography Group Field Trip to Walton-on-the- Naze
Wednesday 12 October	Year 10 Chemistry At Work Careers Event - Tilbury
Tuesday 18 October	Year 11 French CA Speaking GCSE Examinations
Tuesday 18 October	Talk to Year 7 on The Tudors and Talk to Year 6 on The Victorians by C Hammond (Epping Forest Museum)
Thursday 20 October	Junior Harvest Assembly Performance (St James' URC Hall)
Thursday 20 October	Junior Parents Evening
Friday 21 – Monday 24 October	Year 8 & 9 Residential Visit to France

Saturday 22 October – Sunday 6 November - Half Term

Friday 4 November	Year 11 GCSE RS Conference – Bloomsbury Church
Tuesday 8 November	FOBS AGM
Wednesday 9 November	Year 2 Coffee Morning
Friday 11 November	Year 5 Class Assembly to Parents
Sunday 13 November	Oak-Tree Fireworks Event (Oaklands School)
Wednesday 16 November	Year 10 & 11 "An Inspector Calls" Theatre Trip
Friday 18 November	Year 4 Class assembly to Parents
Friday 18 November	Epping Forest Schools Parliamentary Debating Competition at Roding Valley School
Wednesday 13 November	Year 1 Coffee Morning
Friday 25 November	Year 3 Class assembly to parents
Friday 25 November	Braeside House Drama Competition at Lopping Hall
Friday 25 November	FOBS Christmas Fair at Junior Site
Tuesday 29 November	School Nursing Team: Flu Vaccinations for Juniors
Wednesday 30 November	EYFS 1 Coffee Morning
Friday 2 December	Year 11 Poetry Live (to be confirmed)
Friday 2 December	Year 2 Class assembly to parents
Monday 5 December	Whole School Christmas Carols at St John's Church
Wednesday 7 December	Year 3-5 Coffee Morning

Friday 9 December
Friday 9 December

Year 1 Class assembly to Parents
Year 11 "Skills London" Event at Excel Centre

As always, if you have any concerns or questions you would like to discuss, please contact your child's form teacher or telephone the school office to arrange an appointment. We would be very happy to see you.

With 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.

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