



Braeside School

130 High Road, Buckhurst Hill
Essex IG9 5SD

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

E-mail: enquiries@braesideschool.co.uk
Website: www.braesideschool.co.uk

HEADMISTRESS

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

January 2017

Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

Thank you for the many Christmas cards and gifts you kindly gave me last term. I hope you and your families had an enjoyable Christmas break and that you are looking forward with expectation to the year ahead. May I wish you all a happy and healthy 2017.

This is a busy term with parents' evenings, mock GCSE exams, 11+ and 13+ entrance exams, and Year 9 options evening. Thirty pupils from Normanhurst and Braeside will be heading to the ski slopes in the February half-term, a trip that we are all very much looking forward to and a first for the Braeside pupils.

School Lunches

We are very pleased to be launching the school lunches this term. The kitchen staff have been preparing over the holidays and there is a soft launch in place for the start of term, as Mr Hagger explained in his letter to parents in December. A range of sandwiches, rolls and wraps will be served daily, along with soups, salad, fruit desserts and yoghurt. All dietary needs will be catered for. Please would you ensure that you have informed us about any dietary requirements or food allergies. This is most important.

Please do not send your children into school with a packed lunch from now on, as all the children and staff will have lunch provided by Chartwells.

We will inform parents when we are ready to launch the full hot lunch menu; we expect this to be in the first half of term. Parents will be able to see the menus on the school website. As you know, we are waiting for the mains gas supply to be connected to the brand new kitchens on the senior site.

Safeguarding Children

Keeping children safe in school is our utmost priority and the up-to-date Safeguarding Children Policy is available for all our parents to read on the school website. You can also request a paper copy from the school office, if you prefer. In school we have three 'Designated People' for Safeguarding: me, Mrs Moon, the Head of Seniors, and Mrs Copeman, the Head of Juniors.

In line with good practice, all members of staff and pupils are regularly reminded about procedures and how we deal with concerns if they arise. The staff have also had training on the Government's 'Prevent' duty for schools and the PSHE curriculum reflects the latest guidance.

FOBS Committee

Mrs Jessica Chessher has been Chair of the FOBS committee since November 2015, and has led the committee in organising events like the Summer Fete, Christmas Fayre, cake sales and Christmas cards, among other things including charring meetings and helping the committee to forward plan for this academic year. She would now like to stand down from the role. We are very grateful to Mrs Chessher for all she has done as Chair to help FOBS raise funds to support the school.

FOBS will need to appoint a new Chair this term and I am sure the Committee will be in touch with parents shortly to tell you more about what they do and to encourage you to consider taking an active role in supporting your parents' association. There are a number of FOBS events planned for the pupils over the coming terms, so do look out for more details soon.

Speech Day and Prize Giving 2017

An advance date for your diaries: the annual Speech Day and Prize Giving will take place on Friday 7 July on the senior site. There will be Foundation Stage celebration in the early afternoon, followed by the Speech Day and Prize Giving for pupils from Year 1 to Year 11. This promises to be a lovely event when we celebrate together the successes and achievements of the school year.

Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 10 January	Start of Spring Term: school begins at normal time 8.40am Year 11 GCSE Mock Examinations begin
Wednesday 18 January	LAMDA Examinations Preparation Session
Thursday 19 January	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Friday 20 January	Oak-Tree Schools Art Exhibition at Loughton Arts Centre begins
Monday 23 January	Waltham Forest College presentation to Year 10 & 11 Year 9 Visit to Jewish Museum Year 11 Mock GCSE Results home
Tuesday 24 January	11+ Entrance Exam for external candidates and for current Y6
Wednesday 25 January	LAMDA Examinations
Thursday 26 January	Year 10 Forest School Careers Fair
Tuesday 31 January	Year 8 Parents' Evening
Thursday 2 February	Kindergarten - Year 5 Parents Drop-In Sessions
Monday 6 February	Year 11 Full Reports published to parents EYFS Read Write Inc Parents' Information Meeting
Tuesday 7 February	Years 5 & 6 Young Voices Concert
Wednesday 8 February	Years 1 & 2 Read Write Inc Parents' Information Meeting
Thursday 9 February	Years 4-11 ISA Cross Country Years 11 Parents' Evening
Friday 10 February	Years 11 GCSE Science Live FOBS Junior Film Night
11 – 19 Feb	Half Term holiday
11 – 18 Feb	Ski Trip to Italy

I look forward to seeing you at the parents' evenings and school events this term. With my best wishes for the coming term and for 2017.

With kind regards

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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