



# Braeside School

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## HEADMISTRESS

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

December 2017

### Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

As I write my final Headmistress's letter for 2017 following a lovely Christmas Fayre on Saturday, I can honestly say that this term has flown by. Having read through the latest set of school reports, there is much to celebrate in pupils' achievements in class, and lots to praise in their achievements beyond the classroom in music lessons, extra-curricular activities, sport, and in assemblies.

Having enjoyed an excellent evening of Drama performance in Lopping Hall with the seniors just over a week ago, I am looking forward to both the school Carol Service for Years 1-11 and the infant Nativity performance for Kindergarten to Year 2 this week.

#### **Carol Service Wednesday 6 December 9.15am**

Parents, family members and friends are warmly invited to join us for the Carol Service at the Parish Church of St John on Wednesday. Pupils from Year 1 upwards will be taking part. I look forward to seeing you for this festive event.

#### **Christmas Lunches Thursday 7 December**

The whole school will be enjoying Christmas lunch on Thursday 7 December, which will be a lovely occasion. The kitchen team are preparing a festive menu for us, with the usual vegetarian and Halal options available.

#### **Infant Nativity Performance Friday 8 December 2.15 pm**

Doors open from 2.00pm for the Infant Nativity performance at St James URC Church in Palmerston Road on Friday. Parents and families of the performers are most welcome to come and join us.

### Staff News

#### **Junior Site**

Mrs Collins, who has been the junior secretary at Braeside for many years but has been off work unwell for some time, has decided to relocate to be nearer her relatives in West London in the New Year. We are grateful for all she has done for Braeside throughout that time. Whilst we are sorry she has decided to resign, we are delighted that Mrs Michelle Pipe, who has been covering the position in the office during Mrs Collins' absence and has herself been connected to Braeside for many years, has accepted the position of permanent junior school secretary from January.

We are also very thankful for the contribution Mrs Zarkar Akhtar has made in Reception class since she joined just over two years ago as their Teaching Assistant. Mrs Akhtar is going to start a new business venture with her husband and they are planning to open a nursery in the New Year. Whilst we will miss her, I am pleased that we have Miss Julie Matthews joining Reception Class as Teaching Assistant from January. She has been working in

Early Years at a local school for the last three years, having had a career break to raise her son. She spent the morning in school last Friday for a handover and to meet the girls and staff. I am sure she will be a lovely addition to our team.

### **Maternity Leave Arrangements**

As you know, Ms Moon and Mrs Kirk are awaiting the arrival of their new babies and begin their maternity leave in January. The cover arrangements are fully in place for the time that they are out of school.

Mrs Braithwaite, the Assistant SENDCo will be looking after special educational needs during Ms Moon's absence.

Ms Moon's Year 11 GCSE class will be taught by Mrs Revoir and I will be teaching the Year 10 GCSE group. We both have considerable experience teaching RS and we are looking forward to taking the girls through their course until Ms Moon return to work in June. Ms Coleman will be taking the Year 9 RS class.

Mrs Kirk's PE teaching will be covered by Mrs Guest, who is able to increase her part-time commitment to cover all of the classes until Mrs Kirk return to work.

Mrs Jermutus will be taking responsibility for the pastoral care of the senior girls, which is part of Ms Moon's role. In order to provide time for her to do this, Mrs Puchalla will take over being Year 10 form tutor for the next two terms and Miss Leeuwner will take on two additional periods of science teaching.

Mrs Alahi will be taking on additional responsibilities to support the leadership and management on the senior site, and she will be available to support and advise pupils, as well as Mrs Jermutus and myself.

Mrs Copeman will continue in her role as Head of Juniors, and Junior Health and Safety Officer; she also will be looking after Health and Safety on the senior site until Mrs Kirk returns from maternity leave.

I know that parents, staff and pupils will be wishing Mrs Kirk and Ms Moon all the very best as their maternity leave begins.

As ever, I will be very much available if any parents want to come and talk about their children or any school related matters, so please do feel able to contact me, or indeed Mrs Copeman, Mrs Jermutus or Mrs Alahi if there is anything you would like to discuss.

### **Coffee Mornings with Mr Hagger and Mrs Osborn**

Mr Hagger and I have enjoyed our coffee mornings with Braeside parents this term so far. It has been good to talk about school life, current developments and to hear what you feel is going well and your ideas for how we can improve further. We have the Year 3-5 meeting on Wednesday 10 January and the senior meeting on Wednesday 17 January, both from 8.45 – 9.45am.

### **School App**

You might have noticed that the App had a facelift over the summer at the same time as the school website was updated. One of the main changes is that you are now able to add individual dates to your phone's calendar by clicking the + symbol on the event. The 'Key Dates' section focusses on the term dates and main whole school events, with all other dates on the calendar.

## Final Day of Term Wednesday 13 December

The last day of term is a charity 'Wear a Christmas Jumper Day', the details of which have been sent home to parents by Ms Moon.

Please note that school finishes at **12 noon** on the last day of term. All pupils must be collected at this time and there are no after-school activities on that day on either site.

The Spring term begins on Tuesday 9 January and the normal start time, and breakfast club will be running as usual.

## Forthcoming Events

Tues 9 January	First Day of Spring Term
Tues 9 – Tues 16 January	Year 11 Mock GCSE Exams
Weds 17 – Thurs 18 January	Year 11 Art GCSE Mock Exams
Weds 10 January	Years 3, 4 & 5 Parents' Coffee Morning
Weds 17 January	Years 6, 7, 8,9,10 & 11 Parents' Coffee Morning
Thurs 18 January	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Mon 22 January	Year 11 Mock Results sent home
Tues 23 January	11 + Entrance Examination
Mon 29 January	National Citizenship Service talk to Year 11
Weds 31 January	LK – Year 5 Drop-in Morning
Thurs 1 February	Year 8 Parents' Evening
Fri 2 February	Year 11 Science Live! Trip
Fri 2 February	Year 11 Full Reports published
Mon 5 February	Year 9 DTP & Meningitis ACWY Vaccinations
Weds 7 February	Year 4 Visit to V & A Museum (English & Science Workshops)
Thurs 8 February	ISA U9 - U16 Cross Country Event
Thurs 8 February	Year 11 Parents' Evening

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your families every blessing for Christmas and the New Year.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely



Claire Osborn  
Headmistress



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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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