



Braeside School

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HEADMISTRESS

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

November 2018

Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

I hope you and your families enjoyed the mid-term break and that you are looking forward to the forthcoming half-term, which has a number of special events as Christmas approaches. Please make a note of the dates at the end of this letter, on the app calendar and on the website.

Coffee Mornings this Term

Mr Hagger and I are holding the annual parent coffee mornings this half-term. We begin with the junior classes on the following Wednesday mornings at 8.30 – 9.30am in the junior hall:

Wednesday 7 November: Kindergarten and Reception

Wednesday 14 November: Years 1 and 2

Wednesday 21 November: Years 3-5

There are two coffee mornings on the senior site from 8.45 – 9.45 am in the senior hall:

Wednesday 28 November: Years 6 and 7

Wednesday 5 December: Years 8-11

We value these opportunities to hear from our parents and you are warmly invited to attend the relevant week for your child's class.

Senior House Drama Competition

The Senior House Drama competition takes place on Friday 23 November at Lopping Hall in Loughton. Pupils have been rehearsing hard and I hope they are looking forward to the evening. Parents will receive information about how to order tickets shortly. Please do come and join us for the evening. It has become our tradition to use Lopping Hall as the venue, and it would be lovely for the pupils to perform to a full house.

Christmas Events

FOBS are organising the annual Christmas Fayre, which this year takes place on Saturday 1 December. There will be lots of lovely stalls and, of course, the chance to meet Santa.

Junior Pantomime Trip

All the pupils on the junior site have their annual trip to the pantomime at the Harlow Playhouse on Wednesday 5 December. Mrs Copeman will be sending home the details shortly.

Christmas Lunch and Junior Christmas Party

The whole school will have Christmas lunch on Thursday 6 December. The Chartwells team are putting together a lovely Christmas menu for us.

The juniors will have their Christmas party in the afternoon of Tuesday 11 December, along with their House Christmas sale.

Infant Nativity Play

The infant Christmas performance takes place in St James' URC hall on Friday 7 December at 2.00pm. Kindergarten, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are all involved in this special Christmas event and parents are invited to come and see the performance.

Christmas Carol Service

The Carol Service takes place again this year on Monday 10 December at 2.00pm at St James URC Church. Pupils from Year 1 to Year 11 are involved in the event. All families are welcome to join us for the service and there is no need to reserve tickets in advance. We expect the event to be over by the end of the school day and pupils can go home from the venue if their parents are attending.

Uniform Reminders

As we return to school this term all pupils should now be wearing the winter uniform, as described in the uniform list, on the junior and senior sites.

Pupils in the seniors should be wearing brown tights, not white socks, and should always wear their blazers in school. Skirts should be knee length; they may rest on the top of the knee but should not be shorter than that. Also please remind your daughters to arrive at school with long hair tied back. It should remain tied back all day.

Our uniform list states that: *'No jewellery is allowed apart from small plain stud earrings (one in each ear), a small wristwatch and a discreet religious symbol. Hairbands, slides etc. must be in school colours and discreet style'*.

Please would you ensure that the girls only wear plain stud earrings for school, and that they do not wear them on days when they have swimming or PE. Earrings need to be taken out for sports and the juniors find this very difficult to do for themselves.

Important Reminder: Mobile Phone Policy for Pupils

I am aware that not all pupils are adhering to our clear and straightforward mobile phone and social media policy. I am therefore asking parents to re-inforce these expectations clearly at home and I am reminding you and the pupils that serious sanctions follow both the inappropriate or irresponsible use of mobiles in school, and the inappropriate posting of images or text on social media.

Pupils are not permitted to use their phones at any time in school, neither in classrooms, changing rooms, corridors nor on coaches.

Pupils are not permitted to take photos of each other or of staff when taking part in school activities, on site or off site.

Pupils are not permitted to upload any images or films onto social media that could be construed as offensive, bullying or disrespectful to the school and its members.

If we discover that pupils have not been following our policy, investigations and sanctions will follow. These may include, but are not limited to, fixed term exclusions, the withdrawal of the opportunity to take part in trips and events, working in isolation from lessons, the loss of break times and the confiscation of their mobile phones.

My recommendation to parents is that your pupils do not bring a mobile phone into school unless you require them to have it for their journey to or from school. It will never be needed in school and our rule is that phones are either locked in lockers or handed into the school office. The Leadership Team will be closely monitoring the use of mobiles moving forward, including checking that no images identifying pupils in uniform or the school are posted on social media.

Chewing Gum in School

Chewing gum is not permitted anywhere on the school site. We had an unfortunate incident last term of gum being left on one of the school lunch trays, which was most unpleasant for the catering staff to deal with. Please ensure your daughters do not have chewing gum with them in school.

October 2019: Inaugural Sports Tour and Cultural trip to Madrid

I am delighted that we will be having our first sports tour and cultural trip to Madrid next October half-term, in the first week of the holiday. The trip will be open for **current Year 6 to current Year 10**. As we have done previously, the trip will be joint with Normanhurst School. The trip provides the opportunity for girls to choose either the sports option with a girls' football focus including training in the Madrid training ground, or a cultural package with a range of day trips and activities in Madrid and the surrounding area. We can take about 15 pupils on the trip and places will be offered on a first come first served basis. It promises to be an excellent experience.

The tour company have provisionally arranged to come into school on **Tuesday 13 November** at 4.00pm to give a presentation to any pupils and parents who are interested in finding out more. The office will confirm the details next week.

Forthcoming Events

Weds 7 November	Early Years Parents' Coffee Morning
Weds 7 November	Year 6, 7 & 8 Visit to Bletchley Park
Fri 9 November	Year 5 Ancient Rome In-House Workshop
Mon 12 November	FOBS AGM
Tues 13 November	European Trip Meeting for Parents
Weds 14 November	Years 1 & 2 Parents' Coffee Morning
Fri 16 November	Year 4 Class Assembly
Fri 16 November	Juniors Bring Your Bear to School Day (supporting Children in Need)
Weds 21 November	Years 3, 4 & 5 Parents' Coffee Morning
Thurs 22 November	Lower K to Year 5 Parents Informal Drop-In Session
Fri 23 November	Year 5 Class Assembly
Fri 23 November	Seniors House Drama Rehearsals and Competition (Lopping Hall)
Mon 26 November	Year 9 & 10 GCSE History Group visit to Imperial War Museum
Weds 28 November	Years 6 & 7 Parents' Coffee Morning
Fri 30 November	Year 4 Visit to British Museum
Fri 30 November	Oak-Tree Sports Hall Athletics (Years 10 & 5/6)
Fri 30 November	Year 6 & 7 In-house talk re Judaism
Sat 1 December	FOBS Christmas Fayre (12:00 – 14:00)
Tues 4 December	Reception – Year 6 Flu Immunisation Session
Tues 4 December	Infant Nativity Rehearsal
Weds 5 December	Years 8, 9, 10 & 11 Parents' Coffee Morning
Weds 5 December	Juniors Pantomime Visit – "Aladdin" at Harlow Playhouse
Thurs 6 December	Braeside Christmas Lunch
Fri 7 December	Infant Nativity Concert (St James URC Hall)
Mon 10 December	Braeside Carol Service (St James URC Hall)
Mon 10 December	End of Term Reports Published to Parents
Tues 11 December	Juniors Christmas Party and Inter-House Christmas Sale
Weds 12 December	Seniors End of Term Assembly
Weds 12 December	Juniors End of Term Assembly
Weds 12 December	End of Term: Break for Christmas holiday - 12:00 noon

I look forward to seeing you at the events taking place over the next few weeks and I wish you and your children a happy and productive second half of term.

As always, if you have any questions you would like to raise with the school, please contact your child's form teacher or telephone the school office to arrange an appointment.

With my very best wishes

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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