



NEWSLETTER

December 2018

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Headmistress's Message

It has been lovely to see so many parents at our Christmas events this year: the excellent infant Nativity performance and the whole school Carol Service on Monday 10 December.

I feel very proud of the pupils: their enthusiasm, willingness and skills. It was a privilege to see the pupils perform and participate, be it singing, reading, acting or playing in the band.

I am grateful also to parents and pupils for your generous donations to our charities in the retiring collection and to the Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal.

The school has thought about others and shown generosity and kindness, which is fitting for this Christmas season.

I wish you all a peaceful and joyful Christmas season and every good wish for the New Year. Thank you so much for the cards and gifts you kindly gave me.

The Spring term begins for pupils on Tuesday 8 January at the normal times. I look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

With my best wishes

Claire Osborn

Headmistress

Creating Atoms in Year 9

Year 9 used their creative skills alongside logic and reasoning in their Chemistry lessons this month. Their task was to build a model of an atom using craft materials and a periodic table.

Well done to Nikki, Sam, Hagar, Nell and Abi who all received House points for using their initiative and coming up with a detailed model in the short time given, and that represented the correct number of each sub-atomic particle for their chosen atom.



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Final Music Lesson of the Term

The Early Years children enjoyed singing Christmas favourites and playing percussion instruments energetically and loudly in their final music lesson for the term! It was great fun!



Samaritans Purse Appeal



Over the last few weeks both Junior and Senior pupils have been collecting items to put in shoeboxes for the Samaritans Purse Appeal.

The pupils were inspired to take part after an assembly in which they learnt all about the project and how we could bring a little bit of joy to another child's life.

Consequently on Friday 18 November we were able to deliver 96 shoe boxes to the Samaritans collection centre in

Buckhurst Hill, a number we were very proud of. The volunteers at the centre were very grateful for our help and presented us with a certificate for our efforts.

A special thanks to all families who took part this year for their generosity and kindness.



Year 6 and 7 Learn about the Jewish festival of Chanukah



This term, Year 6 and 7 were invited to a talk by Sheila Chiat, a volunteer from our local synagogue in Newbury Park.

She came in to speak to pupils about the history behind the Jewish festival of Chanukah; to take questions and to explain the significance of symbols used during festivals.

Pupils had a chance to sample some traditional food that Jewish people eat at Chanukah – doughnuts, challah bread

and fried potato. Sheila performed some blessings and shared the food.

Pupils lit a Chanukah candle and used the event to reflect on the past year. It was informative and interesting for all the pupils.



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Remembrance Assemblies



Year 5 led a Remembrance Day assembly for the whole school at the beginning of November. With a backdrop of poppies, the children read out some poems and letters about the war and Remembrance, and helped the rest of the school understand the meaning behind wearing a poppy.

The Seniors also had a special Remembrance assembly. Mr Hewitt (a member of the maintenance team) spoke to pupils about his mum's contribution to the land army, and he kindly bought her medal and certificate in for the pupils to see. He told a heart-warming true story

about the contribution of women and young boys during the war – working on farm land and down mines.

Mr Shields (the school chef) also gave a fascinating insight into rationing during the war. He told pupils about food and cooking on the front line and about rationing at home. He brought examples of the type of food that soldiers and families would have eaten.

At the end of assembly Year 6, 7, 8 and 9 sang a Remembrance song of reflection. All pupils across the school had a 2 minute silence at 11am, and the charity committee have been responsible for selling poppies to pupils and staff.



Medals from The Great War

Thank you to Kiera in Year 9 who kindly brought in her Great Grandfather's medals from The Great War. Her Grandfather served in the Lancashire Fusiliers. It was a great opportunity for the rest of her class to see the medals, and gave everyone a better understanding of the type of job that those that served in the war were required to do.



A Delicious Christmas Dinner at Braeside



Last Thursday pupils eagerly tucked into their delicious Christmas lunch. It was a very festive affair with everyone getting into the Christmas spirit, donning their cracker hats and telling jokes. Everyone cleaned their plates it was so good!



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Year 5 Ancient Rome Workshop

Year 5 took part in a fantastic Ancient Rome workshop this term. The class had a visitor from the Epping Forest District Museum who brought in a range of artefacts, some real and some fake. After a brief introduction, each pupil was given a room in a Roman villa where they would 'work' for the rest of the session. After working out what their



room was, they were given the artefacts to explore. It was very tricky trying to work out what the tools and pots were used for, but the class were eager to discuss ideas with each other!

It was a great workshop where everyone learnt a lot about the life and work of Ancient Romans, and how we can still see traces of their life around the UK today.



Creative Writing Competition

Pupils have been taking part in a Creative Writing competition called 'Mission Catastrophe'. Participants are writing stories that are 100 words long all about a catastrophe which they decide upon, the outcome of it and whether there are any survivors or not. It is an in-House competition where there will be a winner from each year group!

Cake Sale for Children in Need

Our pupils supported Children in Need this year by not only bringing a bear to school, but also by bringing in a cake for the cake sale. There were so many donations there ended up being two cake sales! In the end a fantastic £290.95 was raised. Thank you to everyone for your generosity.



The Juniors did a great job of raising money for Children in Need by bringing their favourite teddy bear to school for the day along with a donation. Bears of all different shapes and sizes joined pupils in their classrooms for a day of learning. Some of the year groups then completed some

special teddy bear related work to help make their bears feel extra welcome.

Year 4 completed some bear-y special baking. Taking Children in Need as inspiration they created their very own Pudsey Bear shortbread biscuits. All of the pupils helped to weigh, prepare and cut the biscuits, before carefully decorating the finished product.



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Year 4 Trip to the British Museum

Year 4 have recently enjoyed an action packed day at the British Museum. In the morning pupils attended a special talk about Ancient Egyptian mummies, where they found out more about the process of mummification and were able to see some CT scan images showing the insides of some of the museum's unopened sarcophaguses.



In the afternoon they then completed a workshop where they learnt more about the Rosette Stone and how it was decoded. The class used coding software to create their own hieroglyphics to represent the letters in their name. They also programmed special LED signs to then display their names.



Oak-Tree Sports Hall Athletics Competition



The first ever Oak-Tree Sports Hall Athletics competition was held this term. Our Year 5 pupils spent time before the competition learning how each event worked and practicing their skills. Year 5 made up two teams who overall came fourth in the competition. Our most accomplished event was the speed bounce in which our teams came 2nd and 3rd.

The event was run by the Braeside and Normanhurst Year 10 Sports Leaders who took responsibility for organising events and acting as team managers. The Braeside leaders were a credit to the school and were very positive role models for the younger participants.



Well done to them and to our Year 5 athletes. The results were as follows:

	Girls	Boys
1st	Oaklands	Normanhurst
2nd	Coopersale Hall	Coopersale Hall
3rd	Normanhurst	Oaklands
4th	Braeside	Braeside and Normanhurst mixed team

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Creating Perfect Poppies in Year 1



In order to commemorate Remembrance Day this year, the children in Year 1 were set the task to create some beautiful poppies.

The lesson took place just after an assembly all about Remembrance Day, so all the children had a good idea about the meaning behind poppies on this special day, and the colours that they should be using to decorate their work.

Well done Year 1!



Epping Forest Constituency Christmas Card Competition Winners

A huge congratulations to Freya in Year 5 who was the winner of the Epping Forest Constituency Christmas Card competition! This year the theme was 'Big Ben at Christmas', and was open to children from all primary, junior and infant schools in Epping Forest.

On Friday Epping Forest Dame Eleanor Laing MP visited Braeside School to present a prize to our worthy winner and runner up, Inaaya, also in Year 5.



Mrs Laing said: "The judging panel had great difficulty choosing the winner as there were some marvellous designs on the theme 'Big Ben at Christmas'."

Freya's picture has been printed as Mrs Laing's 2018 Christmas card and Inaaya's has been printed on the back.



Year 7 Make Christmas Decorations



Year 7 have made some gorgeous needle-felt Christmas decorations.

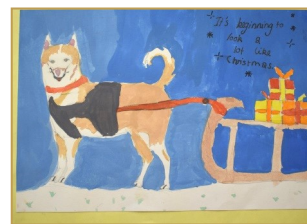
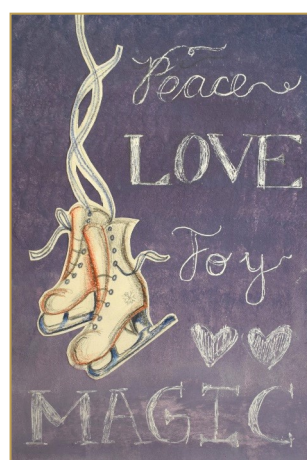
The idea is to create a 'Keep me' decoration that can be brought out every year to be loved and admired.

Everyone really enjoyed making robins, snowmen, gingerbread men and father Christmas himself.

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Braeside Christmas Card Competition

This year we have run a Christmas Card Competition for KS 2, 3 and 4. We had lots of really great entries, using paint, collage and mixed media. Certificates and prizes will be given out at the end of year assembly. Good luck!





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Social Networking



Website

Go to the School Calendar page for upcoming events and our News page for all the latest news and lots more photos.



App

Keep up to date with the latest news, calendar dates, and much more by downloading the new Braeside School App.



Instagram

Follow us on Instagram for regular photo updates! Search for **braesidesch** to find us and then click follow.



Twitter

Follow us **@BraesideSch** on Twitter to get the latest updates.



Facebook is our newest form of Social Media. Like us on Facebook to get news, photos, events and updates posted straight to your newsfeed.

Buckhurst Hill Parish Council Christmas Card Competition Winner!

Well done to Elizabeth in Year 6, for winning the Buckhurst Hill Christmas Card Competition.

The theme was the 'The Magic of Christmas' and Elizabeth's entry was absolutely delightful.

Buckhurst Hill Parish Council will be using the design as their official Christmas Card and included with the Christmas gifts the Parish Councillors deliver to senior and housebound residents during December.

Well done Elizabeth!



Oak-Tree Spelling Bee



This term the Oak-Tree Spelling Bee was held at Oaklands School. A Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupil from each of the four schools took part. Pupils were called up in Year groups and had to spell out a series of words related to their age group, with the spellings getting trickier as the competition went along.

After all 4 rounds, the spellings were marked and the results could be announced.



1st – Coopersale Hall

Joint 2nd – Oaklands and Braeside

3rd – Normanhurst

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House Drama Competition

Braeside Seniors held their annual House Drama Competition in November at Lopping Hall.

The House Captains of each house are responsible for sourcing the script, casting the performers, holding meetings and organising props for the event. Pupils from Year 6-11 are involved in every aspect of the performance.

Bronte house started the evening with 'St. Trinian's' which was written by Kirsty (House Captain), Fry followed with 'A Christmas Carol', Mason wowed with their winning show called 'Check Please' and the performances were rounded off with Nightingale's 'Brothers Grimm: Spectaculathon'.

The plays were performed back to back and Mr and Mrs Coates and Mr Reich- Storer were this year's judges.

The pupils worked very hard on making the performances amusing and a pleasure to watch!

Best House Drama—Mason House



Most Promising Actress
Freya and Macey



Best Actress
Simran



Best Actress Runner-Up
Nell

Year 4 Rhythm Work

Year 4 had fun creating their own rhythms recently which they then performed to the class. They used words to help them perform the rhythms correctly while also trying to stay in time with the pulse on the piano. It was trickier than expected, but by the end of the lesson, all the pupils could perform their rhythm on time. Well done!



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Early Years Outdoors

The Early Years children have had a lovely time making the use of their outdoor space at break time. It is lovely to see the pupils playing together and making use of the range of toys outside, the most popular being the bricks, tricycles and play house!

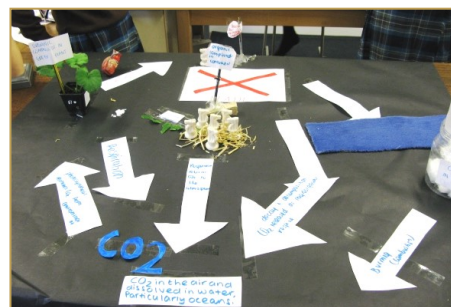


Year 11 Learn about the Carbon Cycle

Year 11 have been looking at materials cycling in nature. As part of their lesson on the carbon cycle they created models and acted out the carbon cycle using props.

It was quite a lot of fun to see how each team could make their presentation different from the rest, and there was a great deal of learning going on.

By teaching each other and with the added element of competition, the pupils could remember all the steps and processes involved in the recycling of carbon by the end of the lesson.



Year 6—Christmas Snowmen

Year 6 have produced these lovely needle felt snowmen.

They have used a range of materials and techniques to produce these cute little characters that will sit quite comfortably on the mantelpiece and watch all the fun and chaos that Christmas brings!

Well done to everyone.



Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 Visit Queen's Court Nursing Home



Last week, Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 paid a visit to Queen's Court Nursing Home to entertain the residents with a range of Christmas carols. The children sang beautifully, and certainly put a smile on some faces.

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Christmas Carol Service

Year 1-11 took part in the Braeside Christmas Service at St James Church in Buckhurst Hill. The band (Maddie, Elizabeth, Betsy, Sukhmani and Emilie) played an instrumental set as parents arrived. Freya, Izellah, Lauren and Maddie read accounts of the Christmas Story from the Bible, the Senior choir sang carol verses in Latin and Spanish, the Junior choir sang some very festive songs and pupils also had an opportunity to sing a solo, duet and trio. Rev. Ulrike Bell gave a heart-warming and poignant Christmas talk about the importance of togetherness. It was a delightful afternoon to start the festive period!



Year 8 Look at Chemical Reactions

Year 8 have been learning about chemical reactions in some of their Science lessons recently.

During a lesson on combustion they completed an investigation to compare the energy given out by different fuels.

The pupils enjoyed setting up their experiments to ensure there would be a fair test. They used precise measurements of mass of fuel, volume of water and temperature change. They compared for the different fuels how the mass of the fuel changed and by how much the water changed temperature.



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Babushka!

We were treated to a wonderful performance by our Junior pupils last Friday as they told us the story of Babushka. Babushka is a story that is often told in Russia at this time of year, it tells the tale of an elderly woman who is visited by kings, who were following the bright star outside. Unfortunately, Babushka was too busy to go with the visitors to find the new-born king, but it is said that she is out still looking for Jesus today.

The children entertained the audience of family and friends with lots of songs, acting and dance moves, with all the children remembering their lines beautifully. Well done to all our young actors, you certainly got everyone in the Christmas spirit!



Imperial War Museum Trip

Year 9 and 10 History pupils visited the Imperial War Museum, Lambeth this term. Pupils in Year 9 have been exploring different aspects of The Great War – from conditions at home to conditions on the front line.

The classes travelled by tube to Lambeth North and arrived to the enormous tank on the front lawn. Pupils were shown around the WW1 gallery – there were uniforms; letters from soldiers; a mock trench with periscopes and dug outs; examples of rationing, a gallery of weapons and films and accounts of men and women at war.



The pupils were then taken to the learning base where they had a 'FaceTime' message from a historian giving them a brief of what they had to look for in the gallery. They were given mobile recording devices and press passes and made a documentary on different aspects of war. The films will be available for IWM to use and for pupils and parents to view.

A great time was had by all!

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Making Music

This month in Music, pupils have been getting creative with the way that they create sounds. Year 2 had fun creating their own rhythms with 'rhythm sticks', where they had to carefully listen to stay in time with the pulse.



Year 3 created their own tunes on Glockenspiels to demonstrate their ability to hold the beater properly, strike a single key with accuracy and make up a simple melody using only 5 notes.

Year 6 got everyone into the festive spirit by composing their own Christmas melodies which they then performed to the class in pairs. They had to think about what rhymes they used and how they would structure the piece using ostinato rhythms.



Rock and Roll in the Classroom

Year 9 have had lots of fun learning about different genres of popular music this term, including Rhythm & Blues and Rock & Roll. They've listened to lots of music, composed their own music, played a variety of instruments and even made up their own dances using authentic Rock & Roll steps such as the 'Jive', the 'Shuffle' and the 'Mash Potato'.



Year 8 Make Bobble Hats

Year 8 pupils have made these super hats using a knitting loom.

The technique requires skill and concentration and the ability to master just the right amount of tension to create a beautiful knitted creation. Their designs displayed both colour contrast and balance and students really enjoyed the experience.



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WW1 Screening

Year 9 and 10 History pupils had a special screening of a recent film about WW1. The film was based on footage captured during The Great War and had been specially arranged, coloured and annotated by Peter Jackson.

The film included voice accounts of soldiers and officers serving in WW1 which made the film resonate with the pupils. It was both eye opening and thought provoking, and all the pupils went home with a lot to think about.



Christmas Jumper Day

Junior and Senior pupils wore a Christmas Jumper on the last day of term to raise money for Save The Children charity.



The charity committee suggested the idea and were responsible for collecting the donations. It was a charitable and fun way for pupils to show their goodwill on the last day of term, and really got everyone in the Christmas spirit.



Junior House Competition

On Tuesday 11 December, Junior pupils took part in a House Sale Competition. Each House was set with the task to create items which they could sell to each other. Everyone worked very hard on their creations and set up their own stall.



The items made by the Houses were Christmas hot chocolate reindeer cones, pom-pom key rings, marshmallow snowmen and Christmas pine cone decorations. They all went down very well, with lots of sales taking place throughout the afternoon.



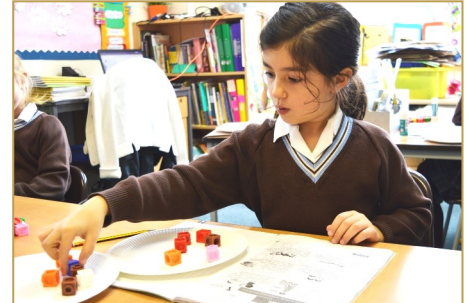
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Division and Multiplication in Year 2

Year 2 have been working very hard in their Maths lessons this term. They have enjoyed taking part in a number of tasks in their workbooks where they had to complete a set of challenges involving both division and multiplication.



Some of the problems the children could work out themselves, while others required the help of snap cubes.



Year 2 were very happy to work both independently or together, and should be very proud of what they have managed to achieve in Maths.

Year 10 Science Investigations

Year 10 have completed their 6th required practical: 'Investigating the effect of light intensity on the rate of photosynthesis'.

Year 10 have been looking at the rate of photosynthesis when a light source is moved closer or further away from a plant.

The class found that when the light source is moved further away from a plant the rate of photosynthesis falls. This was shown by a slowing



Year 6 Christmas Cards

Year 6 have really enjoyed exploring all the colours and symbols associated with Christmas to produce these vibrant and imaginative Christmas Card designs for the Buckhurst Hill Parish Councils Competition this year. Well done for all the hard work, they look great!



Getting Crafty in Reception



Reception children had a lovely time in their lesson exploring the different ways they can decorate small clay pots. After painting and adding a little bit of colour to their creations, they very carefully added tiny glitter dots as the finishing touch.

The children followed the design carefully, and should be very proud of their finished work!

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FOBS Christmas Fayre

Despite the rain, everyone had a lovely time on Saturday at the FOBS Christmas Fayre. The hall at the Junior site was packed with family and friends, all hoping to win some prizes on some of the many stalls manned by parents, teachers and pupils.

This year there was a new element to the event, as everyone was given the chance to collect stamps at each stall. Once they had visited all the

stalls, they would get a special treat! The cake stall and the raffle were very popular, as was the bottle tombola and a visit to Santa's grotto.

Pupils did a lovely job of entertaining the crowd with a range of songs, and there was some tasty food being served from the BBQ outside.

A huge thank you to the Parent's Association for arranging and running what once again was a fantastic event!



FOBS Update

AGM - November 12th

FOBS held the AGM on the Senior Site. We were pleased to see that a number of parents were able to attend. James Pepe, Treasurer told us that we have just under £13000 in the FOBS account. We have agreed to fund the whole cost of the Junior School Panto trip this year. We are also in talks with Mrs Osborn and Mr Hagger to think of how the majority of the money can best be spent on the girls' school experience. Watch this space.

Unfortunately for us our Co-Chairs Karen and Adrian Adams decided that it was time to step down from their positions on the Committee.

Fortunately for us they were willing to continue with the organising of the Christmas Fayre. Our Secretary, Polly Wells also stood down as she has moved to Suffolk and her daughter had successfully completed her Braeside education.

Elin Walsh (Seniors) was nominated and seconded and became the Secretary. Louise Mead (Juniors) was nominated and seconded as Chair. It was felt that it would be good to have a Chair from each site. Elin Walsh was nominated and seconded to become a Co-Chair. We hope that by having Chairs from both sites that we will be able to understand and represent the two different age populations more clearly. We were lucky that James Pepe was happy to remain as Treasurer. Thank you to Karen and Adrian for all their service. We wouldn't have had events over the last few years without them. Special mention to Polly who has been a committee member of FOBS since her daughter started at the school 12 years ago. Impressive.

Christmas Fayre - 1st December

FOBS organised the Christmas Fayre with a little help from the many. Thank you to everyone who played their part in making this a lovely start to the Christmas season. Karen and Adrian did a wonderful job of pulling everything together. The class reps did a fantastic job of creating fabulous hampers as raffle prizes. Well done to all those who won one. They also garnered volunteer help which meant that we were able to run all the stalls successfully.





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Thank you to the caretaking team Rob and Mark for giving us access to everything we needed on site and for their general helpfulness. The senior pupils that helped were full of enthusiasm and it was nice for the Juniors to mix with their older counterparts. Mrs Wise from the Senior Office took care of the raffle. The teachers organised the bottle tombola in orderly fashion. Steve the chef valiantly cooked on the BBQ in the rain. They were nice hot dogs - thanks Steve. We even had an appearance from Santa Claus who came to kick-start his busiest month of the year.

Lots of parents, family members and children turned up and made it all worthwhile. It was a lovely couple of hours and everyone who attended joined in the Christmas spirit.

Class Reps

Thanks to all our class reps who have done a sterling job this term. We would still love to get a representative from Year 6. If anyone from Year 7 would like to take over from our current representative Diane, then she would be more than willing to step aside and give someone else a go.

The job is not very eventful most of the year but it allows us to channel communications through the classes. The main tasks are organising raffle prizes and asking for volunteers when needed. Although it may feel like an extra job on top of all the other jobs you have, it is actually very rewarding being a part of making things happen for the girls, the school and FOBS. If we continue to make hampers as raffle prizes then you also get to spend other people's money and make things that everybody appreciates.

2019

We will start the new year with a partially new committee. The events that we know are coming up are the Easter Egg Hunt, the Oak-Tree Ball and the Summer Fete. If you want to contribute any ideas to anything FOBS related then please do let us know. Otherwise we'll let you know when we need your help.

You can get in touch with us via the school office info@braesideschool.co.uk.

Kind Regards,

Co-Chair: Louise Mead

Co-Chair and Secretary: Elin Walsh

Treasurer: James Pepe



**Merry Christmas and a Happy
New Year from everyone at
Braeside School!**