



NEWSLETTER

January 2019

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Headmistress's Message

The first half of the Spring term is always busy at Braeside and this year is no exception. The Year 11 pupils have had their mock GCSE examinations and we held the 11+ entrance examinations for pupils hoping to join us in Year 7 next year. I have very much enjoyed meeting the prospective pupils and their families.

Despite the wintry weather, our pupils in both the juniors and the seniors have been out and about: you can read about some of their experiences in this newsletter. You can also read about our recent success in Art competitions, both in the Christmas card design competitions for the Parish Council, and in the Loughton Young Artists competition for GCSE Art students in the area.

Very best wishes

Claire Osborn

Headmistress

Buckhurst Hill Parish Council Christmas Card Competition

Year 6 entered a Christmas card competition in December with Buckhurst Hill Parish Council. Pupils had a brief that they had to follow. The designs were spectacular and involved lots of snow and Christmas lights!

We are pleased to say that the winner was Elizabeth in Year 6 who wowed the Parish Councilors with her textured snowman. Elizabeth worked incredibly hard on perfecting this design.

Bobby Nagpal, one of the Parish Councilors, came into assembly to present her with her prize and certificate at the beginning of this term. Well done!



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Senior Creative Writing Competition

Years 7, 8 and 9 took part in a creative writing competition before Christmas entitled 'Mission Catastrophe'. To enter, the pupils had to write stories of 100 words or less in length about a catastrophe either before, during or after the event. They had to decide on the outcome of it and whether there were any survivors or not.

There were 16 entries across the three year groups. As well as the main competition, we ran an in-house competition before sending the entries off to the organisers. It was really difficult to narrow it down to one winner per year group as the entries were all so great but the winners were as follows:

Year 7 - Hannah Year 8 - Naomi Year 9 - Nikki



Year 4 and 5 Thames Explorer Trip



Year 4 and 5 went to Greenwich on Thursday 24 January on a 'Thames Explorer' trip. The first stop of the day was on the bank of the Thames, where the children went mudlarking and managed to find Victorian pottery, bones and mud pipes!

The pupils then tested the PH of the River Thames and took part in a carousel of activities

to learn more about the river. Although it was a windy, wet and cold day, everyone had fun and learnt a lot.



Sneak Preview of the Loughton Young Artists Exhibition

On the evening of Friday 25 January we were treated to a stunning exhibition opening of artwork produced by GCSE pupils at Normanhurst and Braeside School. The gallery was packed from the start of the event until the end, with many proud pupils, parents and teachers admiring the work.



The exhibition formed a part of Loughton Young Artists competition which is a showcase for outstanding artwork produced by schools in the area. The exhibition featured work completed in a range of media, from painting to sculpture. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the creative talent of our pupils.



It was agreed that the standard this year was extremely high and news has now been received that Karishma and Katie have been awarded joint first place. Their work will now go forward into the Winners Exhibition next month.

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Kindergarten Postal Workers

Kindergarten have been learning about Postal Workers as part of their 'People who help us' topic. The class wanted to see how long it would take if they posted some letters to themselves at school.

They walked to the local post office where they bought some stamps, stuck them on their envelopes and posted the letters. Everyone is really looking forward to receiving them from the postman!



Year 8 Identify Unknown Substances

What happens if a police officer catches someone with a substance that looks like a drug? Year 8 found out more about this interesting question in a recent Science lesson.

Drugs are not always illegal, sometimes they are needed for medicinal purposes. Sometimes, suspects claim a substance is sugar, not an illegal drug. In this kind of situation, the police officer would need to identify the substance.

Year 8 used chemical tests in a practical to identify unknown substances in the form of white powders.



Kindergarten Explore Rhythms and Instruments

Kindergarten children have been having a lot of fun in their music lessons at the start of this term. They have started to explore the range of rhythms that can be created with different instruments such as rhythm sticks, standing drums and hand drums. All of the children have been very well behaved, listening to instructions and even stopping playing when asked!



Year 10 Measure Heart Rates



Year 10 measured their heart rates during a practical Science lesson in January, to investigate the effect of exercise on heart rate. Heart rates were measured using a stethoscope. The pupils found their heart rates increased after exercise, but that they returned to normal soon after. There was variation within the group and the pupils were able to compare, describe and explain the resultant graphs.

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Junior Dance Assembly

On Friday 25 January we were treated to a wonderful dance assembly by our Junior pupils. The children have been working on their moves since last term in their PE lessons, so each of their dances had an autumn theme.

First up was Year 1 and 2 who gave us a scary rendition of the 'Monster Mash', complete with some creative masks. Year 3 and 4 then took to the stage and sang and danced in the rain in their autumn weather inspired dance, before Year 5 danced to Katy Perry's 'Firework'. Lastly the Early Years children delighted the audience of friends and family by showing us their little autumn fairies moves.

All of the children worked hard in the lead up to the event, having come up with most of the moves themselves. Well done!



Food Tests

Year 8 have been busy with the science investigations again.

Some food items you buy in a shop do not come with nutrition labels. How would you find out what is in these?

Year 8 have been testing food samples for starch, lipids, sugar and protein and have been able to identify the positive results for each food test.



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Senior Assembly on Type 1 Diabetes

Elizabeth in Year 6 bravely volunteered to do a Senior assembly about Type 1 Diabetes.

Elizabeth was diagnosed with Diabetes two years ago and has since become very knowledgeable about the condition. She is also incredibly independent in the way that she manages her condition on a daily basis.

Elizabeth answered pupil and staff questions in an informed and humorous way, with both pupils and teachers learning something new. Elizabeth also attributed her success in managing Diabetes to our on-site chef Steve, who carb counts all of Elizabeth's meals for her.

It was a truly courageous assembly – well done Elizabeth.



Young Voices Preparation



Year 5 and 6 pupils have had a busy few weeks already, preparing their dances and songs for the Young Voices Concert, which they will be taking part in on Tuesday 5 February at the O2 Arena.

Braeside pupils will be joined by Year 5 and 6 children from Coopersale Hall, Normanhurst and Oaklands. Although there will be around 130 pupils

attending from the Oak-Tree Group, Young Voices is a concert of children from schools across the whole country that come together to form one of the largest school choirs in the world! We are all very excited!



GRIT Assembly at the Seniors

Seniors had a TED talk in assembly recently, continuing on the theme of success. Ms Moon led the assembly which looked at the latest research on pupil success – it wasn't related to IQ but to resilience, responsibility and learning from mistakes.

Mrs Jermutus also shared her experience of German schooling and how pupils are encouraged to take responsibility from a young age. Pupils were shocked to learn that primary aged children take the bus to school by themselves!

The TED talk was by a former teacher who analysed successful children, and those that had 'grit' showed the most promise. Ms Moon encouraged pupils to think about how they can show grit in their learning this term.



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Art GCSE Mock Examination

Year 11 have been working on their mock exam on the theme of 'Portraits and Identity'. Pupils have explored the theme and have all come up with very different final outcomes. The artists that they have explored include Mathew Grabelsky, De Chirico and Niccolletti Ceccoli. We are all very impressed with the final outcomes!



Year 3 Trip to the Science Museum



Year 3 joined Normanhurst Year 3 on a fantastic trip to the Science Museum. The children were given an opportunity to visit the Wonderlab, where they could independently explore different scientific experiments including electricity, states of matter, forces and magnets.

After this, the children watched the 'Feel the Force' show, where they saw with their own eyes how forces and magnets are used to move things around the world.



The pupils even volunteered one of their teachers to take part in the 'Science Museum Games' where he had to warm up and then show what forces are used when throwing a shot put!



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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.

Forest School Higher Education and Careers Fair

Year 10 pupils attended the 2019 Forest School Higher Education and Careers Fair, where they enjoyed the opportunity to interview representatives from universities, industry, gap year providers and volunteering organisations.

There were representatives from industry and higher education, including some of the best universities in the world including Oxford and Cambridge, and high-profile employers, including Accenture, Sony and Barclays.



All the exhibitors were well-versed in speaking to pupils and were keen to be quizzed on career paths and degree subjects making it a very worthwhile and interesting trip.

Year 5 Science

Year 5 have been learning about fair testing in their Science lessons this term. They conducted a series of experiments, testing the viscosity of various liquids including cream, custard and tomato ketchup!

Once they were sure the tests they conducted were as fair as they can be, they set about putting their results into graphs.



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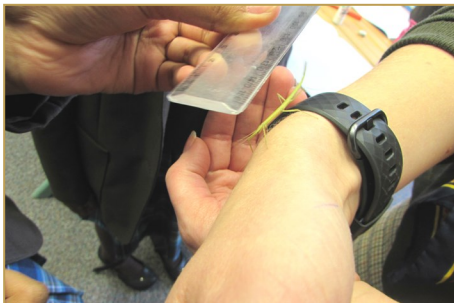
Year 8 Investigate the Energy Content of Food

Year 8 measured the energy content of food by burning the food and using a thermometer to measure the temperature change of water. Unsurprisingly it was the digestive biscuits that were found to contain the most chemical energy followed by the crisps and then the toast and Cheerios.

Year 8 have been studying the chemical content of food and will now move on to the process of digestion.



A Unique Measuring Method!



We have recently had some exciting new pets at the Junior site! We are now the proud owners of the babies of Coopersale Hall's stick insects.

Not only are these creatures fascinating to look at, but they have also been helping the children out with their Maths lessons. The insects helped them to measure accurately. They were very fast so it was not an easy task!

Kindergarten Fire Station Visit

Kindergarten visited Woodford fire station on Friday 18 January which was a very exciting adventure! They had the chance to ride on the fire engine, heard the sirens and all had a go with the hose! It was a very exciting day.

The firemen that worked at the station were also all very helpful, answering the children's questions and telling them all about their job.



FOBS Update

Happy New Year from the FOBS committee. We hope everyone is settling down in to the routine of the new term. We had our first committee meeting of 2019 a couple of weeks ago and came up with some plans for the two terms ahead.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter hunt will go ahead on 2nd April. As usual FOBS will supply the Easter treats. Leah Bettis, class representative for Year 5, is kindly going to source the treats. The teachers will organise the Easter events on both sites as usual. The junior site would appreciate about 4 parent helpers to assist with the fun. The Easter bunny has already been booked!





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Summer Ball

The Summer Ball will take place on Saturday 18 May. It is an adult event and is for all four Oak-Tree schools. Each school is responsible for organising a couple of things and providing some prizes. Adrian Adams, Year 10 parent and previous Co-Chair, has kindly taken on the job of being our parent representative. If you happen to know a good mixologist for cocktails then please do let us know. We have decided to purchase a luxurious hamper raffle prize using our FOBS funds as we already ask you for donations to our two yearly raffles.

We would however appreciate it if you could think about two requests for other prize items. We have been asked to provide both small items for a silent auction and two large spectacular items for a main auction. The types of prizes might be things like signed merchandise, beauty treatments, event experiences, electrical items, meals etc. If you have anything that you can offer then please do get in touch via the school.

The Ball is a wonderful opportunity for us all to get dressed up, have a fun night out, mix with friends and family and see people from the other schools. It would be great if we could get as many of us to go as we can. Braeside will get a share of the profits related to how many tickets we sell. There are discounts for buying multiple tickets. You can go as a couple or with friends or family. You don't have to have enough people to fill a whole table. It would be really lovely if you could get people together and support Braeside and the Oak-Tree Schools. You will be rewarded with plenty of fun and laughter in return.

Summer Fete

We have begun to think about the Summer Fete. We definitely want to have this event this year as unfortunately it had to be cancelled last year. We would like to try something a little different this year and are thinking along the theme of having something that is less 'volunteer heavy'. We have thought of calling it a Summer Festival or Summer Party. It will include some stalls and entertainment. There will be food and drink. And of course we will have our raffle with our fabulous hamper prizes. It is a work in progress and we will come back with more details in the Summer Term. Save the date of Sunday 7 July.

iPads

Thanks to all our contributions to FOBS at events and in the termly fee we have over £10,000 in our account. We will be funding 30 iPads which will be split into 15 for the Juniors and 15 for the Seniors. These will enable our girls to use technology in any classroom as an aid to their learning. Most of the other Oak-Tree Schools already have this facility. Unfortunately we need £15,000 for this. In order to make it happen we will dedicate our future fundraising to achieving this target. The first major opportunity for further fundraising will be in the Summer Term.

If you can help us with any of our requests above then please do let us know. 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

We are now on YouTube!

Keep up to date about what is going on at Braeside School by following us on our YouTube page which is filling up with videos from school events.

