



NEWSLETTER

February 2019

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Headmistress's Message

February half-term saw 12 Braeside pupils join their peers from Normanhurst for a ski trip to the Austrian Tyrol. What a wonderful week we had! The girls made impressive progress over the course of the week and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. You can read more about the trip in this newsletter.

The forthcoming half-term is also busy: we have our March open mornings on the junior and senior sites and our pupils are looking forward to being guides for the morning. We also have our March 11+ and 13+ entrance exams.

You will see from the newsletter that our pupils have had a rich and varied experience at school over the last three weeks. They have certainly been busy.

I hope you enjoy reading about all they have been doing.

Very best wishes

Claire Osborn

Headmistress

Kindergarten Visit the Library



The Early Years children always look forward to visiting Buckhurst Hill library on Thursday afternoons. The librarian reads them stories linked to their current topic and the pupils choose some books to take back to school. Not only do the children enjoy listening to the stories, but it is a lovely way to learn outside the usual classroom environment, and the children are always on their best behaviour.

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Oak-Tree Year 3 & 4 Netball Tournament



Year 3 & 4 pupils from all four Oak-Tree Schools took part in a Netball Tournament on Friday 5 February. The children played a number of 5-a-side games on a half size pitch, which really helped them to understand more about the different rules associated with the different positions. Everyone had a great time and got the chance to play each other, with Coopersale Hall coming out as the overall winner. Well done!



Year 9 Current Affairs Challenge

Congratulations to Year 9 joint winners of this half-term's Year 9 Current Affairs Challenge, Abi, Alisha and Ayla! The overall winning house was Mason.

On Thursdays, Year 9 pupils put in a voluntary contribution to take part in a news quiz challenge in form time. The money will go towards retired teacher, and author of the quizzes, Simon Conway's Just-Giving fundraising page for the East Africa Educational Trust.

In total, Year 9 raised £21.93, Bronte being the most generous house, with £10.73 raised. Well done to all participants!



Prep Schools Cross Country Relay



Several local schools took part in the Local Prep School Cross Country Competition on Friday 13 February, held at Coopersale Hall. There were some tough competitors but all four Oak-Tree schools did a fantastic job on a very tricky course.

Everyone found the last incline exhausting! A large crowd of supporters cheered on our sprinters which really boosted morale! It was great to see so much team work within the Oak-Tree Schools.

Well done to everyone who took part, and a huge well done to Coopersale Hall and Oaklands who both came away with medals!



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Year 4 Classroom or Construction Site?



As part of their topic 'Go with the Flow', Year 4 have been learning about famous bridges and engineers. They have also been set a challenge to design their own bridge that can successfully allow a toy car to cross the classroom river (a homework tray). The pupils have thought hard about their material choices and designs to ensure they are sturdy enough and waterproof. In a recent lesson they started to construct their bridges, carefully selecting their materials and the best ways to join the parts of their bridges together.

Holocaust Memorial Day

Year 9 are studying The Holocaust in both History and Religious Studies this term.

Ms Moon organised for Year 9 to attend a conference to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day at the local South West Essex Synagogue in Newbury Park. Pupils had a tour of the synagogue, were allowed to see a special Torah (that had survived the Holocaust in Poland) and had a talk about survival from one of the synagogue volunteers.



Pupils then moved into a theatre style area for an incredibly moving speech by the daughter of a Holocaust survivor. It was the first time that she had told her father's story and pupils got to see the survivor's journal and photos that he had managed to save. They also heard an account from a Rabbi who had family that didn't survive.

Pupils were moved by the whole experience and asked sensitive and poignant questions about what they had heard and seen. To end the trip, Year 9 took part in a special all-faith prayer and service in the synagogue.

Teenage Cancer Trust Special Assembly

Hollie from the Teenage Cancer Trust came in to speak to Year 8 to 11 in an assembly about cancer and young people. She gave some very useful statistics about the rarity of cancer in young people. She also told some success stories and how the Trust helps young people to live life to the full after a diagnosis.

Pupils asked sensible and sensitive questions and Hollie was very informative.

The charity committee are now going to think of ways they can support the charity.



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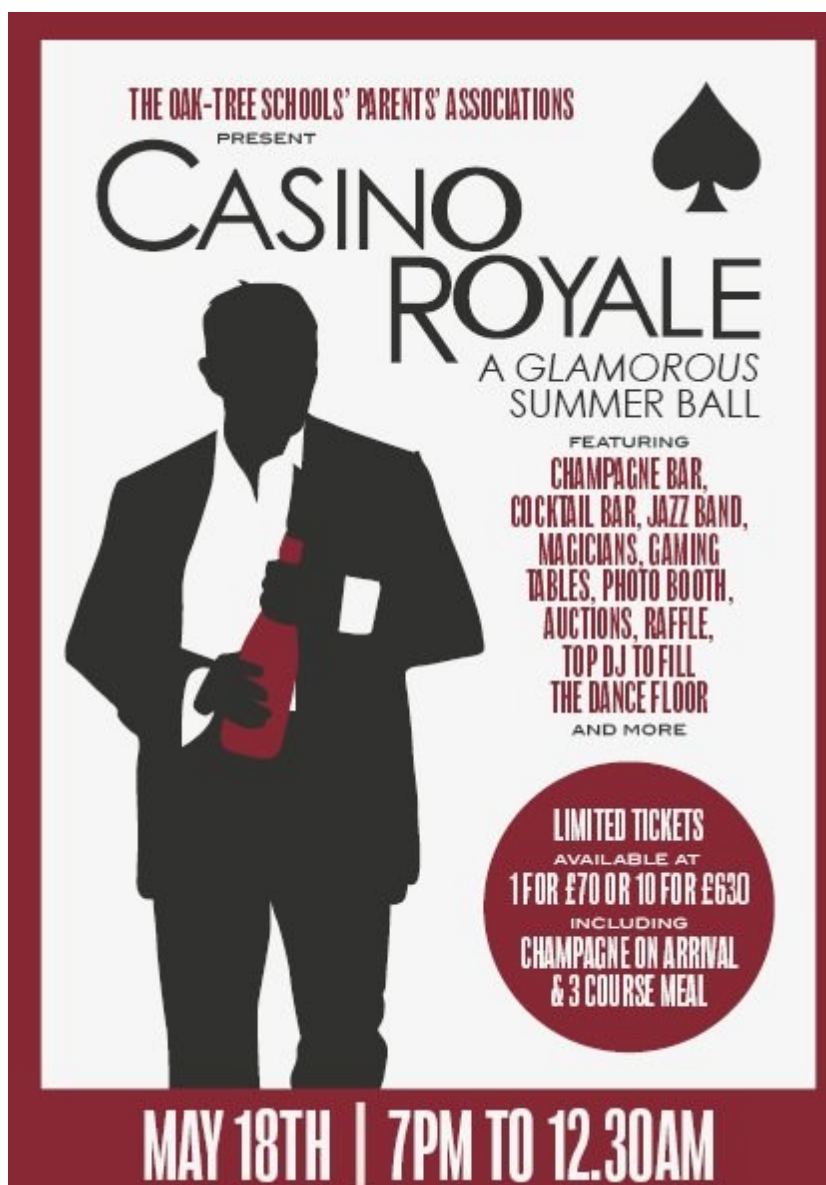
Oak-Tree Summer Ball

Our Parents' Associations from Braeside, Coopersale Hall, Normanhurst and Oaklands have joined together to organise what promises to be a fantastic evening for us all on **Saturday 18 May 2019** in the large marquee at Chigwell Hall (Metropolitan Police Club).

The theme this year will be James Bond's Casino Royale, with a range of entertainment to suit the occasion and keep us going into the early hours.

The cost per ticket is £70 and includes:

- Champagne Reception on arrival
- Three course meal including half a bottle of wine per person and coffee
- Jazz band performing at the start of the evening and during the meal
- 'Close Up' magicians performing sleight of hand tricks throughout the evening
- Several fun casino tables after the meal to play for tokens
- The opportunity to bid in the main fund raising auction for some excellent prizes
- Silent auction and raffle prizes
- Top quality DJ to keep us on the dance floor
- Professional photographer throughout the evening
- Well-stocked cash bar



The Summer Ball is a major event in our school calendars and tickets usually sell very quickly. This is a fantastic opportunity for all four sets of parents, staff and friends of the schools to socialise and have some fun whilst raising money.

All profits from the evening (from ticket sales, auctions, raffles etc) will go back to each school's Parents' Association to benefit the children.

The booking form can be found on the Oak-Tree website.



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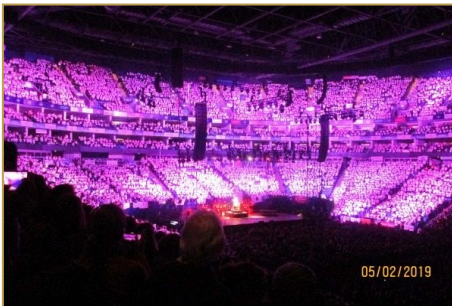
A Musical Month for Year 1

Year 1 have been discovering 'pitch' through movement to the song 'Hot-Cross-Buns', and have learned to correctly arrange a 'Bun Graphical Score'. Having finished sorting they sang the song, taking it in turns to read the score, pointing to each sound symbol as they went.

Year 1 have also been showing off what they have learnt in assembly, demonstrating their ability to respond to and represent the pitch in music with movements. They did very well!



Young Voices 2019



On Tuesday 5 February we took our Year 5 and 6 children from Braeside, Coopersale Hall, Normanhurst and Oaklands to perform at the annual Young Voices Concert at the O2 Arena. The children were very excited to be performing at such a huge venue, and really gave it their all. We were lucky enough to get some of the best seats in the house, right behind the stage and performers, meaning our children and school banner could be seen from all around the venue!

Young Voices is a concert made up of children from schools across the country that come together to form one of the largest school choirs in the world. It was an amazing experience with plenty of parents attending to watch the Oak-Tree children sing along with literally thousands of others to a variety of songs.

A huge well done to all of our amazing performers, and a massive thank you to all of the staff and parents who made the event possible!

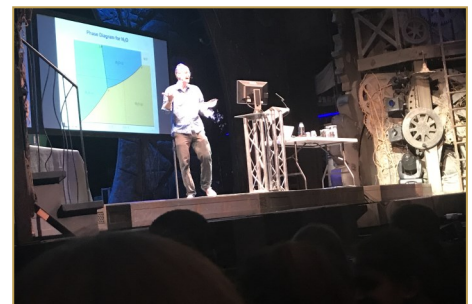


Year 11 Trip to Science Live!

On Friday 8 February Year 11 attended *Science Live!* where they saw five of Britain's top scientists and had the chance to listen to their interactive talks on the cutting edge research going on in their laboratories.

Year 11 discovered how science really can offer solutions for many of the world's great problems.

The day was fast moving and thought provoking and the pupils had the chance to interact with the scientists.



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Piano Examination Success



Well done to Naomi for passing her initial piano exam with a distinction, Izellah for passing her initial piano exam with Merit and to Simran for passing Grade 1 piano.

The pupils have been working very hard in their lessons to achieve these results and Ms Symonds, is very proud of them!



Yoga Sessions in Kindergarten

Kindergarten enjoyed following a guided yoga session during their PE time. They listened carefully and copied a variety of yoga moves and poses.

The children started and finished the session by saying "Namaste".



Success at the 2019 Intermediate Maths Challenge



On Thursday 7 February, pupils from Years 9, 10 and 11 joined schools from across the UK and took part in the UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge.

Year 9 – Simona, Samantha, Athithya, Nicola and Simran

Year 10 – Amaarah, Jessica and Anoushka

Year 11 – Madina and Betsy

This is a national challenge which encourages mathematical thinking by solving 25 demanding and tricky questions in one hour.

Pupils from around the world take part and best performing pupils are awarded bronze, silver and gold certificates.

Simona, Amaarah and Madina received certificates for the Best in Year.

Madina was awarded a Silver certificate and the Best in School award.

Amaarah and Jessica were awarded Bronze certificates.

Congratulations and a big thank you goes out to all the pupils who participated!

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Loughton Young Artists Competition



Pupils and parents were invited to a private viewing at the Loughton Arts Centre, where parents were able to celebrate their children's successes in the Loughton Young Artists Competition. All the winners had their work displayed in a very special week long exhibition at the gallery, which culminated in pupils receiving prizes and certificates from the Mayor.

It was agreed that the standard this year was extremely high and pupils should be very proud of their much deserved achievements.

Fantastic results again, well done Katie and Karishma.

Fun in Morning Running Club

Every Tuesday morning at the Juniors and Friday mornings at the Seniors, many pupils are braving the cold weather for early morning running club. Pupils have had great fun so far. They've dodged the mud and ice in the forest and had some glorious morning sunshine (and rain!).

It was all perfect preparation for the ISA Cross Country Championships in Bedford which took place on Tuesday 26 February.



Senior House Netball Competition

On the last Friday before half term we had our annual House Netball Competition. This year the competition between the houses was closer than ever. There was some great netball played in the true Braeside spirit.

For the first time in many years the eventual winner was Fry, who demonstrated fantastic teamwork led by a Sukhmani and Ellie who did a sterling job.



Creative Writing

Before Christmas many pupils entered a creative writing competition called 'Mission Catastrophe!'. This term we have received a letter from the company who organized the event, informing us that they really enjoyed the stories that our pupil wrote and have asked for some of the stories to be published in their book at the end of the school year! This is fantastic news, and the school will receive a free copy of the book when it is released.





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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.

Un Sondage sur Les Réseaux Sociaux – A Survey on Social Networks

Year 8 pupils have been busy devising a survey in French to analyse their peers' and teachers' use of social media and collect data on e-safety.

On Tuesday 12 February, they spent form time visiting Years 9, 10 and 11 pupils and teachers to carry out their interviews. They then spent a lesson analysing and reporting on the results in French.

This cross-curricular project gave pupils the opportunity to not only practice essential language skills such as asking questions and manipulating verbs in the 'I', 'you' and 'they' forms, but also to learn how to create a survey, extract meaningful results and work out percentages. It also linked to their recent e-safety events.



A Study of 'Vivaldi's Four Seasons'



Year 3 are having lots of fun studying 'Vivaldi's Four Seasons'. In one of their lessons they enjoyed interpreting the music using movements to represent the pitch and dynamics of the piece 'Winter'. Following this they played 'snow sounds' with the percussion instruments of their choice.

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Ski Trip to Innsbruck

During the February half term, forty children from Braeside and Normanhurst went to Austria for an exciting week of skiing in Innsbruck. Most of the children who went on the trip had very little experience of skiing, but that did not stop any pupils having a fantastic time. As early as day two all of the children were able to stand on their skis. Pupils were very lucky to have had excellent skiing conditions and the ski school instructors were pleased with our children's endurance. Everyone made quick progress and found themselves on the blue and red slopes within days.

As well as skiing the children also had two evenings out on the trip. The first was into Innsbruck, the capital of Austria's western state of Tyrol, a city in the Alps that has long been a destination for winter sports. The second outing was to have delicious pizza in the nearby town.

It was a great trip with memories made that will last a lifetime.



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.



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Year 10 GCSE Religious Studies Conference



Year 10 braved the snow and howling winds this month to attend a conference in London. The conference was held at the Bloomsbury Baptist Church in Tottenham Court Road and was well attended by many other schools across the capital.

Dr Peter Vardy (well-known Philosophy and Theology lecturer) boomed information and controversial questions down from the enormous pulpit on: the existence of God, religious experience, what it means to be human, the right to life, euthanasia, abortion and fertility treatments.

It was fast moving and energetic and packed full of exam tips and hints.

ISA Cross Country

This year's cross country was ran in the beautiful February sunshine, there was no mud in sight! We had girls running across the year groups but significantly there were four first timers from Year 4, who found the course challenging but were proud that they all completed the course.



There were some great runs from some of our Year 7 pupils, most notably Maddie who finished the U12 race in 14th place and in the U16's race, Jessica finished 5th, a fantastic achievement.

Jessica has qualified for the National finals on Saturday 30 March, so we all wish her good luck!



National Citizen Service Assembly

On Wednesday 30 January Danielle from the National Citizen Service came to the school to invite Year 11 pupils to their summer scheme.

The National Citizen Service is a voluntary personal and social development programme for 15–17 year olds in England and Northern Ireland, funded largely by money from the UK Government.

The summer scheme would be great opportunity for Year 11 to push themselves outside their comfort zones in the summer holiday after their GCSE examinations.

The programme involves a few days away from home, learning life skills and making a difference in the community. It would give plenty of beneficial experiences and qualifications to include when writing a CV or personal statement. For further information please see <https://www.ncsyes.co.uk/summer>



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Moving with the Music

Year 2 have been learning about the instruments of the orchestra this term. They have been exploring the different sounds that each family of instrument makes.

Here they are moving in time to the music of the 'Woodwind family'.



FOBS Update

Hello everyone. Here is an update of the upcoming events in our calendar.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Egg Hunt is all ready to go ahead on Saturday 2 April. We and the pupils are fortunate that Leah Bettis, class representative for Year 5, is kindly going to source the treats and the helpers. The Easter Bunny has already been booked!



Summer Ball

The Summer Ball will take place on Saturday 18 May. Hopefully you have seen the information sent out by Mr Hagger. Adrian Adams, Year 10 parent and previous Co-Chair, has kindly taken on the job of being our parent representative. He is doing a good job of sourcing a mixologist and the James Bond cut outs.

You may have heard via your class rep and from the last newsletter that we are looking for some small auction items as well as two large spectacular items. We are very pleased to say that we have received a donation of two complimentary tickets to the musical Mama Mia. Thank you to Mrs Savage, Senior school singing teacher. We also have an offer from Julian, a reception parent, to provide a chauffeur service for this trip. That will be a fabulous prize.

If you are able to donate any other prizes for the small and large auction we would be very grateful. 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.

Please do buy a ticket (or more) for the Ball if you possibly can. It is a great way to show your ongoing support for the school and to have some fun in return.

Summer Festival

We have begun to think about the Summer Festival and have started our planning. We are hoping to get the pupils to showcase some of their talents, offer food and drink, have some of the good old stalls and provide some professional entertainment. 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.



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iPads

All funds raised via FOBS termly fees and events will be used to bring us up to our target of funding 30 iPads for the girls to use in their various subjects. We need £15,000 and we are more than two thirds of the way there already.

Your Opinion

We are a small school and busy parents and we all know how difficult it can be to give extra time to school events. We plan to ask a few questions of you, via the school gates or class representatives, to work out what is feasible in terms of FOBS activity. The questions agreed are:

1. If we asked you to help at the Summer Festival this year would you be able to? Yes/Unlikely
2. Are you planning to attend the Summer Festival. Yes/Unlikely
3. How many people would you likely bring?
4. Is there anything you wish FOBS was doing that we are not?
5. Is there anything you think that FOBS is not getting right/doing wrong?
6. Would you prefer to donate money to a class raffle prize or donate goods?
7. Are you happy to buy the raffle tickets? Yes/No

If you want to offer any thoughts on these questions directly then please do let us know.

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.



Open Mornings

Braeside Seniors

Tuesday 5 March at 9.15am

Braeside Juniors

Wednesday 6 March at 9.15am