



Braeside School

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HEADMISTRESS

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

May 2019

Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

Braeside Headship Announcement

When we returned to school last week, Mr Hagger shared with parents and staff future plans for Braeside and for the Oak-Tree Group. He explained that my role will be developing over the next two years so that rather than being the Headmistress of two of the four schools, I will become a Principal of all four schools from September 2019.

It has been my pleasure and privilege to work closely with the staff and pupils at Braeside, as well as their families, over the last three years and to lead the school through many positive developments over that time.

The changes coincide with me becoming Chair of the Independent Schools Association, which is the body to which our schools belong. There are over 500 schools in ISA membership and many of the events, competitions and opportunities we give our pupils arise from our membership of this charitable body, of which I have been an Executive Officer and Trustee for a number of years.

I am delighted that Mrs Moon will become Headmistress from September. Many of you know her very well already and you will know first-hand her commitment to the girls and to the education we offer here at Braeside. I know she has received a number of lovely messages to congratulate her on her new role from parents and staff, and I am sure she will be excellent.

As you would expect, she and I will be spending time this term and in the summer break to ensure a smooth and thorough handover. I will be talking to the pupils about the changes in assemblies over the forthcoming week.

Last Call for the Ball

The Oak-Tree Ball is going to be a wonderful event. The plans are in place for a super evening, with lots to enjoy. Thank you to all of those parents who have already made arrangements to come. Any proceeds from the ball will be given to the parents' associations and will be put back into the schools to benefit the children, so it is well worth supporting it. If you have not yet bought your ticket, and did not receive a flyer last week, please contact or pop into the school office for more information. I am looking forward to seeing many of you there.

GCSE Examinations

The staff and I are pleased to see the focused and mature frame of mind in which Year 11 has returned to school following the Easter break. The GCSE exams begin next week, with practical art and speaking exams, before the written papers commence on Monday 13 May.

I hope our pupils feel well-prepared and positive as their exams start. I wish them all the very best; the staff are behind them and I look forward to sharing the good news of their results in August.

Year 10 Apprentice Prefects

As Year 11 begin their study leave, Year 10 will be invited to apply to become prefects next year. They will have interviews and become apprentice prefects, in advance of the announcement of the new Prefect Team as usual at Speech Day.

ISA Regional Athletics Tuesday 14 May

The ISA regional athletics competition this year takes place in Bedford on Tuesday 14 May. As usual the PE department will be taking some pupils to represent the school in Bedford. This is an important athletics meeting, with hundreds of competitors. There are over nearly 100 ISA schools in our region, in fact we are the largest region nationally, so this gives our pupils the opportunity to compete in a large venue with pupils from many other independent schools.

Last year, as in previous years, the Oak-Tree Schools won a good number of regional gold medals, which meant that those individual competitors or teams represented the region, and our school, in the prestigious national ISA National Athletics Competition in Birmingham in June at the Alexander Stadium. Over the years we have had many pupils selected for Nationals, which is an excellent achievement. Once again this year I will be presenting medals at the event, so I am looking forward to the chance of presenting a medal to one of our own pupils.

Sports Day Thursday 20 June

Sports Day takes place towards the end of the summer term this year at the Lee Valley Athletics track for all classes from Kindergarten up to Year 10. All parents are welcome to join us for the event at Lee Valley from 12pm. The schedule will be very similar to last year, which parents really enjoyed. The pupils will compete in their Houses and the junior and senior sports awards will be presented.

Pupils come to school in their sports kit on the day, including tracksuit. Parents who attend may take their children home directly from the track at the end of the afternoon; alternatively, pupils return to school by coach and can be collected from school or from After School Club.

Years 7-10 End of Year Examinations

Senior school summer exams are in the week after half-term. During this week normal lessons are suspended and pupils have their exams instead. These assessments form an important part of our monitoring of pupil progress over the course of the year. Parents and pupils will shortly receive a copy of the exam timetable. Please encourage your daughters to revise thoroughly for these assessments, which review the whole year's learning. Pupils are being advised on revision techniques in form time and with their subject teachers, and teachers will be directing pupils towards what they should revise.

Junior End of Year Examinations

Junior pupils also have their assessments taking place this term and Mrs Copeman, the Head of Juniors, will be providing parents with details of the assessments, which take place before the half-term break. All the assessments are to help us evaluate the progress each individual child has made over the course of the year.

Clubs from September

We will be finalising the Extra-curricular clubs list for September and parents will receive a copy of the schedule at half-term. There is a range of activities for pupils to select in the autumn term and I hope they enjoy the choices on offer.


Dates for the Diary

Weds 1 May	Year 2 Visit to London Transport Museum
Weds 1 May	AIM Apprenticeship Workshop for Year 10
Thurs 2 May	Year 8 HPV Second Vaccinations
Thurs 2 May	GCSE Spanish Speaking Exam
Fri 3 May	LK – Year 5 Assembly on Summer Safety
Fri 3 May	Year 3 Fire Safety Awareness Workshop
Mon 6 May	Bank Holiday
Tues 7 May	GCSE French Speaking Exam
Tues 7 May	Years 7 & 8 KS3 STEM Workshop
Weds-Thurs 8-9 May	GCSE Art Practical Exam
Fri 10 May	Year 11 Last Day before Study Leave
Sat/Sun 11/12 May	Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Award Practice Weekend
Mon 13 May	Year 11 Study Leave Commences

Tues 14 May	ISA London North Regional Athletics Competition
Weds 15 May	Year 10 Morrisby Career Guidance Testing
Sat 18 May	Oak-Tree Summer Ball
Mon-Fri 20-24 May	Juniors Exams and InCAS Testing
Mon 20 May	FOBS Committee Meeting
Fri 24 May	Senior Instrumental Performers' Assembly
Fri 24 May	D of E Route Planning Session (in school) joint with Normanhurst
Mon-Fri 3-7 June	Year 6-10 Internal Exams
Weds 5 June	Year 4 & 5 Trip to V & A Museum
Thurs 6 June	Juniors: Marvellous Maths Day
Weds 12 June	Class Photographs
Fri 14 June	Years 1 - 5 Trip to Colchester Zoo
Weds 19 June	Years 8 & 9 Europa Centre Visit
Thurs 20 June	Braeside Sports Day (Lee Valley Athletics Centre)
Fri 21 June	Year 11 Leavers' Dinner (Chigwell Hall)
Sat-Sun 22-23 June	Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Award Qualifying Weekend
Mon-Fri 24-28 June	Year 10 Work Experience Week
Tues 25 June	Year 7 Induction Day and Moving Up Day
Thurs-Fri 27-28 June	Years 4 & 5 Lambourne End Residential Visit
Mon 1 July	Year 3 First Aid Course
Fri 5 July	Braeside Early Years Celebration
Fri 5 July	Braeside Speech Day
Sun 7 July	FOBS Summer Festival
Mon 8 July	LK-Year 10 Full Reports published to parents
Tues 9 July	Years 10/9 Art Group & Year 8 Workshop at National Portrait Gallery
Tues 9 July	Senior House Rounders Competition
Tues 9 July	Years 3-5 "Beauty and the Beast" Production
Weds 10 July	End of Summer Term
Thurs 22 August	GCSE Results Day

I look forward to seeing you at the many events taking place this term, beginning with the Junior Music Concert on Thursday afternoon.

With best wishes



Claire Osborn
Headmistress



OAK-TREE SCHOOLS is the group name of:

BRAESIDE SCHOOL, BUCKHURST HILL • COOPERSALE HALL SCHOOL, EPPING • NORMANHURST SCHOOL, NORTH CHINGFORD • OAKLANDS SCHOOL, LOUGHTON

HEAD OFFICE ADDRESS: 6-8 ALBION HILL, LOUGHTON, ESSEX IG10 4RA

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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