



# Braeside School

130 High Road, Buckhurst Hill  
Essex IG9 5SD

Tel Seniors: 020 8504 1133  
Tel Juniors: 020 8504 0021

E-mail: [info@braesideschool.co.uk](mailto:info@braesideschool.co.uk)  
Website: [www.braesideschool.co.uk](http://www.braesideschool.co.uk)

## HEADMISTRESS

MRS CHLOE MOON B.A. (HONS), M.A., PGCE

September 2019

### Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

I hope that you enjoyed a relaxing summer break with your families and that you and your children are looking forward to the new school year which begins for them on Wednesday. Staff have been busy over the holidays preparing for the start of term and we are looking forward to welcoming the pupils back to school.

The school day begins at the usual time of at 8.40 am on Wednesday 4 September on both sites for all pupils. Breakfast Club is available as usual. If your child is starting at Braeside for the first time this week, I hope both they and you settle quickly into the Braeside community. If you have any questions please feel free to phone, email or speak to your child's form tutor or a member of the Leadership Team; I am sure we will be able to help the transition run smoothly.

### Meetings and information evenings

We have a number of meetings and information evenings for parents this term that I hope you can attend to best support your daughter at school. This starts with a *Read, Write Inc* meeting for Early Years parents on 9 September followed by Junior Curriculum presentations on 11 September. On the senior site, Year 10 parents are invited to a GCSE information evening on 17 September and Year 11 parents will be attending a Sixth Form options evening on 24 September.

### Parking notice

As we begin the new school year, please can I remind parents to park safely and with consideration for our neighbours. Please do not block drives for any period of time. Please do not mount the pavement or park on the zig zag lines on Palmerston Road (there is parking further away from the school). Please be considerate of housing and driveways on Ardmore Lane when collecting and picking your daughter up from school.

### Summer Holiday Work

Our caretakers and maintenance team have been busy over the holidays once again on the Braeside sites, ensuring they are ready for the beginning of term and we have hosted a number of holidays clubs through July and August, which have been very well attended by children from the Oak-Tree schools.

### Excellent GCSE Results

We celebrated excellent results, with some outstanding performances across the curriculum. Many pupils were able to take up places at their first choice school or college. 91% of all grades were 'passes' which means grade 4 or above. 18% of grades awarded were grades 7-9, which equates to the old A and A\* grades. We were delighted to have 100% passes with good grades in the Art, English Literature, French, History, Spanish, Biology, Physics and Chemistry.

### **Clubs and music lessons**

Extra-curricular clubs and music lessons will commence from Monday 9 September. Please note that Year 6 pupils will be able to access after school club on the junior site and this should be booked in advance.

### **Swimming lesson change**

Please note that swimming lessons for Years 3-7 will continue to take place on Mondays, but later in the school day. Pupils must bring their swimming kit in the school swim bag ready for their lesson after break time.

### **Harvest Festival**

You will soon be receiving an email containing information about our forthcoming Harvest Festival (Friday 11 October). Once again this year, we are supporting the Trussell Trust Food Bank with donations. A list of required items will be included in the email.

### **School Uniform Reminders**

Pupils on the junior site may continue to wear the summer uniform until half-term. The forecast seems to be for fine weather for September.

There is a clear uniform list on the website for pupils at Braeside School and I would like to ask parents to ensure that children wear the full and correct uniform to school every day. Blazers are a compulsory part of the school uniform for all pupils from Reception upwards on both sites, and should be worn to school every day. I would like to remind you that pupils should come to school with their hair tied neatly back with subtle hair decoration in school colours. Senior pupils may wear long white socks at the beginning of term until the weather gets colder.

### **Homework Matters**

We will continue to use the 'Show My Homework' online homework portal this year for Year 6 to Year 11. We had very positive feedback from pupils, parents and staff following its launch last year, and so we will be developing further how we use the portal during this coming year. Junior parents received a welcome letter from the class teacher after the moving-up day last term, and will have details about homework, tests, topics and class routines. These are also on the curriculum overviews which will be sent to parents this week. If your child struggles to complete her homework in the time, or if there are any other difficulties, please talk to the class teacher so that we can ensure the work is appropriate for your child.

### **Pupil Information on the School Portal**

New parents will receive an email this week with information about how to access the parent portal. The email will contain your username and password details. Please log on to check the portal and to confirm that your details are correct. If you experience any difficulties please contact the school office. Current parents, please log onto the portal to check that the contact details, dietary requirements and medical details we hold for your children are up-to-date. If there are any changes required, please contact the school office. Please be mindful that a dietary requirement is not the same as a food preference. If your child has a food allergy, or if you have a faith-based requirement, please let us know.

### **Absence from school**

If your daughter is absent from school, please make contact with the office before 9.00 am on the first and all subsequent mornings of the absence. Please encourage your daughter to arrive promptly and attend school every day.

### Absence from PE/Games Lessons

If your child is in school but unable to participate in their PE or Games lesson, please send her into school with a note for the PE staff explaining the reason. Please also ensure that she has her PE kit with her because the senior girls will be expected to wear it and go to the PE lesson with the rest of the class, even though they will not participate.

### Forthcoming Events

Weds 4 September	First Day of Summer Term
Mon 9 September	Read Write Inc Meeting for EYFS Parents
Weds 11 September	Junior Curriculum Presentations (Years 1 – 6)
Tues 17 September	Year 10 GCSE Evening (Parents/Pupils)
Tues 17 September	Individual School Photographs
Tues 17 September	Head Girl Conference at Forest School
Thurs 19 September	Oak-Tree Year 3 Summit Rocks Overnight Camp
Fri 20 September	Oak-Tree Year 3 Summit Rocks Overnight Camp
Fri 20 September	Jeans for Genes Day
Tues 24 September	Year 11 Transition to 6 <sup>th</sup> Form Meeting (Parents/Pupils)
Thurs 26 September	Year 8 HPV Vaccination
Weds 2 October	Braeside Seniors Open Evening
Thurs 3 October	Braeside Juniors Open Morning
Thurs 3 October	National Poetry Day (Juniors)
Fri 4 October	Juniors Flu Vaccinations
Weds 9 October	Years 1 & 2 Visit to Waltham Abbey Gardens (tbc)
Thurs 10 October	Harvest Festival rehearsal (Juniors)
Fri 11 October	Juniors Harvest Festival
Fri 11-Sun 13 October	PGL Netball Weekend (joint trip with Normanhurst)
Tues 15 October	Years 5, 6, & 7 Visit to Lee Valley Mosque
Tues 15 October	Junior Parents Evening (specialist staff attending)
Weds 16 October	Junior Parents Evening
Fri 18 October	Years 8, 9 & Year 10 GCSE Geography Group Field Study Trip (tbc)
Mon 21/Fri 25 October	Madrid Sports/Cultural Trip (joint with Normanhurst)
Mon 21 October – Fri 1 November	HALF TERM
Mon 4/Fri 8 November	Year 11 Mock GCSE exams
Fri 8 November	Upper and Lower Kindergarten Parents' Coffee Morning
Tues 12 November	Year 6 & 7 Parents' Settling In Meeting
Thurs 14 November	Year 4 visit to Saatchi Gallery (tbc)
Fri 15 November	Reception Parents' Coffee Morning
Fri 15 November	Epping Forest Parliamentary Debating Competition

With kind regards

Yours sincerely



Chloe Moon  
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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