



HEADMISTRESS

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

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Dear Parents

Re: June/July 2020 Headmistress's Letter

Thank you for your understanding and support as we have navigated the uncharted waters of home learning and a steady reintegration of our school community. I have been immensely proud of the staff and pupils of Braeside, their response to these strange times has been incredible. We have seen resilience, flexibility and strength from everyone.

Although we won't know what September will bring for a little while, the government has stated that it is planning for schools to return as normal. I am looking forward to seeing our community back together again, and I am also looking forward to welcoming our new pupils who are joining us. It will be a special start to the year as 'one school' on the Main Site. Our focus for the term and for the year will be to redefine Braeside as an all-through school. I know that the pupils are as excited as the staff to be on one site.

Year 11 results and GCSEs

I know it wasn't the end of their school career at Braeside that Year 11 had hoped for. Thank you to those Year 11 pupils who have stayed in touch with us throughout home learning. I know that many of you have already started to prepare for your A Level courses in September. We hope to see you on Results Day on Thursday 20 August. Mrs Sheffield and I will be here between 8:30 am and 2:00 pm. We will also be available on Tuesday 25 August between 10am and 2pm for any queries or help with your results or post-16 choices.

I would also like to invite you to a GCSE presentation morning at Braeside on Friday 16 October at 8:45 am. Please save the date and a formal invitation will follow.

Reports

Reports will be ready for you to view at the end of term on the Portal. These will look different this year owing to the period of home learning. Please do read through them and contact the class or subject teacher if you would like any further clarification.

School Books

As usual most junior pupils will bring home their school books at the end of the year and we ask you to store them safely at home for 72 hours before going through them to reduce the risk of cross contamination between school and home. Some books will be retained as a sample in case of inspection early in the new term. These will be returned in due course.

Uniform

Please see the updated uniform list on the website and also in your Parents' Handbook. Please note that we are now 'phasing out' brown tights for pupils. In discussion with the School Council last year, it was evident that brown tights have been problematic to source. Pupils will be able to wear either black or brown tights in the first half of the Autumn Term. I will expect all pupils to only wear black tights after half term in October. However, pupils are still welcome to wear socks where indicated on the uniform list. Please do not buy white tights as these are not permitted.

You should know what House your daughter is in by now. Please ensure that the colour of her swimming hat reflects her house. The house colours are: Fry – white, Bronte – red, Nightingale – yellow and Mason – blue. Please also note that there is a uniform swimsuit available from the outfitters, Forest Casuals.

I know it seems early, but you may want to purchase school regulation winter hats and gloves before the Autumn Term. Please see the uniform list on the website for full details.

Staffing

I am pleased to announce both the Junior staff and Senior staff responsibilities for next year as follows:

- Lower Kindergarten – Mrs Toye
- Upper Kindergarten – Miss Piper
- Reception – Mrs Thompson (teacher) and Ms Matthews (Teaching Assistant)
- Year 1 and 2 – Miss Van Bergen (teacher), Mrs Celentano and Mrs Bovingdon (Teaching Assistants)
- Year 3 – Mrs Bickford
- Year 4 – Mrs Gadd
- Year 5 – Mrs Doss
- Year 6 – Miss Wood
- Year 7 Form Tutor: Ms Coleman
- Year 8 Form Tutor: Miss Krist
- Year 9 Form Tutor: Mr Masood
- Year 10 Form Tutor: Mrs Alahi
- Year 11 Form Tutor: Mrs Hucbourg

Mrs Jermutus is leaving at the end of this year after a long period of service to Braeside and the Science Department. I know that she will be missed but we wish her all the best in her position as maternity cover Science teacher in a local school. I am pleased to be welcoming Mrs Martin-Burns to Braeside, who will be co-ordinating Science from September 2020. Mrs Martin-Burns is very experienced, having taught all three Science disciplines at West Hatch High School and Debden Park High School. She has also had a leading role in Science and has previously enjoyed the role of Director of Sixth Form. I know that your daughter will welcome her warmly in September.

Mr Masood will be taking on the responsibility of Careers Education for all pupils and Work Experience for Year 10.

The move to one site

As we move to working on the Main Site in September, pupils, staff and parents will have some new routines to follow. I hope I have outlined them as best as I can below:

Start of school

Junior pupils will enter the site at the 'top gate' in Ardmore Lane at 8:20am onwards for an 8:30am start. For the first few days, we will label the entrances until pupils get used to them.

Senior pupils will enter the site through the 'senior gate' near the bottom of Ardmore Lane from 8:00 am. They will be called to registration at 8:40am. Pupils will be able to access their locker rooms from 8:00 am but they must wait in the gardens until 8:40am when registration begins.

If your daughter will be attending Breakfast Club, she must be dropped off at the main entrance to the school where a member of staff will answer the door and collect her. You may pull into the drive if you are dropping your daughter off for this provision.

Break and lunchtime

Junior pupils will have their morning break at 10:30am and seniors will have their break at 10:50am. Junior lunchtime will be at 12pm and Senior lunchtime will be at 1pm. There will be the usual midday supervisors working. Pupils will be able to play outside in the extensive space on the Main Site at break and lunchtime.

PE bags

We will be relocating the bag store from the junior site. However, for now, bags will be stored inside the building in or outside the classroom on pegs. Senior pupils will still have lockers to keep their PE and school bags in for the day.

End of the school day

Junior pupils should be collected at 3:30pm in the playground at the top of the site. Please wait in the playground for your daughter to be dismissed by staff. Senior pupils exit the senior gate at 3:45pm.

If your daughter is attending an after school club, she will be collected from the Main Entrance to the school (if she is in the Juniors). Senior pupils will exit via the Main Entrance after the club has finished. Again, you are welcome to pull into the front drive when collecting from an after school club.

Office staff

The office staff will now be a team of 4 – Mrs Wise, Mrs Amey, Mrs Pipe and Mrs Sheffield. Mrs Pipe will generally be dealing with Junior matters but the wider office team may contact you too. You can speak to any member of the office staff about Junior or Senior issues.

Moving Up Day

I know that your daughter will be disappointed not to have Moving Up Day this year. If your daughter will be joining us as a new Junior pupil in September, she will be able to meet her new teacher via a video that teachers are busy preparing. If your daughter is starting in the Seniors, she will also be able to view a video of her new teachers and form tutor. I am sorry that we cannot get together in the usual way but I am hopeful we can plan some events in the Autumn term so that we can get acquainted.

Dates for your diary

Please look on the school website for events we have been planned for the Autumn term. More will be added as we go into the term. Term will begin on Thursday 3 September. Staff have Professional Development on Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2 September. The office will be open for calls or emails if you have a query at the start of term.

Complaints

As you are aware, we have an open door policy throughout the school and we make every effort to respond quickly to any queries or concerns you may have. I thought you might like to know that over the course of the last academic year we had one formal complaint, which was resolved quickly and to the satisfaction of all parties.

I would like to wish you all a safe and happy Summer Holiday. Please take the time to enjoy the pleasant weather and have some time outdoors if it is safe to do so. Thank you for your support and kind words through what has been a very strange time in history for everybody. I hope that life returns to something that we can recognise as normal very soon. I am very much looking forward to the new term and meeting you all again.

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

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