



Braeside School

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HEADMISTRESS

Mrs Chloe Moon B.A. (HONS), M.A., PGCE

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2 November 2020

Dear Parents

Re: **November 2020 Headmistress's Letter**

I hope you and your families have had a restful break over half term. I appreciate that the news about a further national lockdown will be unsettling. Please be assured that Mr Hagger and I will continue to liaise with you about any changes to school as and when they happen. For now, we will continue to work in the way that we have been since the start of term.

As you are aware, from today all staff and senior pupils will be required to wear a face covering in communal areas and when moving around the buildings to reach their final destinations. This is in line with the government guidelines for schools.

We have in-school events planned as usual and we will endeavour to hold these exciting experiences in the safest possible way. These may take a different format this year and I will communicate with you about what format each of these events will take.

Coffee Mornings

Our usual programme of Coffee Mornings will still go ahead in a virtual way. The dates for the groups are published at the bottom of this letter in the dates section. We will be inviting you to a 'Virtual Coffee Morning' by Zoom where you can chat to Mr Hagger, Mrs Osborn and myself and ask any questions about our provision at the school. You are welcome to submit questions beforehand, or ask during the event. We do hope you will be able to join us, and we will be arranging for an additional afternoon slot for all parents later in the academic year.

Uniform

In my last Headmistress' letter, I wrote to you about having the correct uniform this term. This means that seniors must wear black tights. This also means no white or brown tights for any other pupil in the school. Coats must be regulation for Junior pupils and must be plain black or navy for senior pupils. Coats must be long enough to cover the body and MUST be waterproof. The uniform list can be found in the Parents' Handbook that we sent in August and also on the website.

Swimming

Mrs Copeman sent a letter to all the pupils who are swimming this week. However, owing to the second national lockdown that starts on Thursday 5 November, swimming sessions after that date will not go ahead until further notice. I know that your daughter will be disappointed by this news. We have a coach and a slot at the pool booked so that they can continue to swim once the restrictions have been eased.

After School Provision

Please note that clubs after school will still be going ahead, unless we are notified otherwise.

Enhancements to the Building

We are continually seeking to develop the wonderful facilities that we have here at Braeside on the main site. Over half term, there have been further enhancements to the toilet and changing facilities, with new drinking stations installed so the pupils' reusable water bottles can be re-filled. The Early Years outside play area has been extended to include a new woodland area and larger soft-surfaced playground, with all areas covered by a new weatherproof awning that will enable the children to play outside all year round. There have also been enhancements to ICT resources and lighting around the building. I must thank your daughters for their suggestions and ideas on how to further improve their learning environment.

Parents' Evening

We would normally organise a Year 7 Settling-In Evening this term. Due to the lockdown and the requirement to minimise additional journeys to and from school, this will now be virtual via a Zoom link that will be sent to you. This appointment will either be with Ms Coleman (Year 7 form tutor) or with me. Mrs Wise will contact you nearer the time to arrange your time slot.

Reception to Year 7 Flu Vaccinations

These will go ahead as planned on the morning of Thursday 5 November. Please ensure that you have completed the on-line consent form (even if you are withholding consent) by the end of Tuesday 3 November.

Events in School

I am pleased to say that we have organised a selection of in-school events for pupils to enjoy and learn in a different way. These are in place of school visits that we are currently unable to undertake and will always take place in a bubble. We have a French language film and workshop, provided by the Institut Français from their South Kensington base, planned for Years 7, 8 and 9 and a study skills workshop for Year 8 to 10 from a company called Learning Performance. FOBS have also kindly supported us with organising a Christmas Card designing project that you received an email about during half-term. We have also booked a DJ and have organised some in-house FOBS events for Junior pupils after school on 9 December. More details will follow.

Remote Learning

As you are already aware, we have provision in place for Remote Learning. Senior pupils will use Show My Homework to access their work and Zoom calls if we have a school closure or if a bubble has to isolate. Junior pupils will have access to Seesaw for their work and Zoom calls. All of these passwords were issued at the start of the term. However, if you have misplaced these passwords, please do contact your daughter's class teacher (if in the Juniors). For Show My Homework passwords, please contact Mr Masood.

Dates for your Diary

Please make a note of any of the events listed below that relate to yourself or your daughter.

Thurs 5 November	Junior Flu Vaccinations (Years Rec to 7)
Tues 10 November	Year 7 Parents Settling In Evening
Weds 11 November	Kindergarten & Reception Parents Virtual Coffee Morning
Weds 18 November	Years 2, 3 & 4 Parents Virtual Coffee Morning
Weds 18 November	Year 7, 8 & 9 French Comics Languages/Art Workshop
Thurs 19 November	Years 8, 9 & 10 Learning Performance Workshop
Fri 20 November	House Netball Day
Weds 25 November	Years 5 & 6 Parents Virtual Coffee Morning
Weds 2 December	Years 7 & 8 Parents Virtual Coffee Morning
Thurs 3 December	Infant Nativity Rehearsal
Fri 4 December	Infant Nativity Virtual Performance 2.00 pm

Weds 9 December	Years 9, 10 & 11 Parents Virtual Coffee Morning
Weds 9 December	Christmas Jumper Fundraising Day
Weds 9 December	Christmas Lunch
Weds 9 December	Whole School Bubble Christmas Quiz/EYFS/KS1&2 Bubbles Disco/Christmas Crafts Evening
Thurs 10 December	End of term assembly
Fri 11 December	Term ends at 12.00 noon
Weds 6 January 2021	First day of Spring Term

Thank you for your continued support during these very testing times. We are helping our pupils with every detail that changes through assemblies, PSHE and form time. I am incredibly grateful for the positive and resilient attitude your daughters have shown during these strange and changeable times. They have asked appropriate and thoughtful questions and have responded extremely well to all new procedures.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself, Mrs Copeman or Miss Wood. I hope to see you at one of the Virtual Coffee Morning over the next few weeks.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely



Chloe Moon
Headmistress



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