



Braeside School

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HEADMISTRESS

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

5 February 2021

Dear Parents

Re: February 2021 Headmistress's Letter

Thank you for your incredible support and kind words to the staff during this period of remote learning. We really appreciate your support and suggestions to get the remote learning balanced and right for our school community. Thank you for getting in touch to let us know what works well for your child and for you as a family. It is really helpful that we are made aware as soon as you experience any challenges to remote learning.

Mrs Razzak, Mrs Pipe and Mrs Alahi are very grateful for your good wishes and messages of condolence and support. We are delighted that Mrs Pipe will be returning to school this week.

Remote Learning etiquette

Please can I remind you that pupils should be appropriately (and fully) dressed to attend their Zoom lessons throughout the day. Your child must be dressed and ready to start the day's learning when registration begins. Please ensure that she has eaten her breakfast and has been to the toilet to avoid disruption and distraction during the on-line lessons.

Registration and form time, with the form tutor or class teacher, has been set for both senior and junior pupils at the beginning and end of the day. This is the roll call when the teacher registers your daughter's attendance and checks on her well-being at specific points in the day. If your daughter does not attend, a member of staff will call you to check on her attendance, just as we would do if school was open. Please make sure that she attends form time regularly and promptly.

Critical Worker provision

We continue to provide a supervised service for those pupils whose parents have a front line job - where their work is essential and critical. I am very grateful to Mrs Spencer, Mrs Celentano and Mrs Bovingdon for providing the support and care that is needed in these uncertain times. Miss Barrett is on-site on Monday and Friday to provide a much loved PE lesson for your daughters on these days. The pupils attending provision on these days should be in PE kit.

Break time is a welcome opportunity for pupils on site to relax and get some fresh air. Please ensure that your daughter brings a healthy, nut-free snack with her to eat. It is also essential that she still brings her equipment and resources to school ready for a day of learning whilst in this provision. If your daughter is in Year 7, she must remember to submit her work when she gets home and must also remember to bring her Art sketchbook and pencils if she is attending on a Wednesday.

Please continue to liaise with Mrs Wise in the office if your requirements change. If you could do this by the end of the week, this would be very helpful as it allows us to plan with regard to staffing and meals provided.

Children's Mental Health Week

As you may be aware, this week is Children's Mental Health Week. More than ever, we have been focussing on the wellbeing of students as they face uncertainty about exams, returning to school and being apart from their friends, family and school community. Please be assured that Mrs Copeman and I will continue to check-in with our families via a phone call over the next two weeks of term. We are on-site every day and we are here to listen and provide support where we can.

Thank you to those pupils and parents who have called and emailed us. Our assemblies and form time always include an aspect of well-being to ensure that your daughter can talk to an adult about her feelings. I have included some links below that you may find useful:

- youngminds.org.uk
- www.place2be.org.uk
- kooth.com
- www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk

Safer Internet Week

Next week is safer internet week. With restrictions and school closure, we are aware of pupils spending more time than usual in front of a device or screen. Please do call us if you need support in managing screen time and use of devices. Mr Hagger and Mrs Osborn wrote to all parents at the end of the Autumn Term with some useful advice and links for support with regard to keeping children safe on-line. These are all available on the Group website <https://www.oaktreeschools.co.uk/e-safety/>.

Fair Trade Fortnight

Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. By requiring companies to pay sustainable prices (which must never fall lower than the market price), Fairtrade tackles the injustices of conventional trade, which traditionally discriminates against the most vulnerable. It enables them to improve their position and have more control over their lives.

We were planning on some events in school to mark Fairtrade Fortnight which begins on Monday 22 February, immediately after half term. Mrs Wroblewski will be organising some activities for your child to work on at home. She will also be leading senior assembly after half term.

This term we have, as you can imagine, very few dates for your diary. However, I would like to let you know that the FOBS Committee are planning a Virtual Quiz Evening, take place on Friday 12 March. More details will follow in due course.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely



Chloe Moon
Headmistress



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