



# Braeside School

130 High Road, Buckhurst Hill, Essex IG9 5SD

Tel: 020 8504 1133

## HEADMISTRESS

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

E-mail: [info@braesideschool.co.uk](mailto:info@braesideschool.co.uk)

Website: [www.braesideschool.co.uk](http://www.braesideschool.co.uk)

Friday 28 May 2021

Dear Parents

### Re: June 2021 Headmistress's Letter

Please do read this letter carefully as I have included dates and times for events that have been planned for your daughters and for parents. We are really hoping to be able to invite parents to some events in the second half of the summer term provided it is safe (and legal) to do so within the Government's Road Map.

We have been busy in school with sport and our successes in football that were included in the latest newsletter. Pupils are preparing for LAMDA exams that can finally go ahead now that the examiners are working through the schedule of assessments. Year 11 are working exceptionally hard on their assessments that will be awarded Teacher Assessed Grades this year. Reception have been gardening and growing a range of vegetables and plants in the Early Years area. There is a sense of calm purpose in every classroom and we are hoping to demonstrate this in the Autumn term with school drop-in mornings.

### Dates for your Diary

#### Sports Day

Braeside will be holding Sports Day at Lee Valley Athletics Centre on Monday 5 July. We are very much hoping parents are able to join us for this event. I will write to you separately nearer the time as parent spectating will depend on guidelines from the Department for Education. Miss Barrett and the Senior Leadership Team are making the arrangements at the moment. It is very important that pupils have clean and correct PE kit for this event. This is the link to the uniform list including the PE kit: <https://www.braesideschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/BS-Uniform-2020-2021-4.pdf>

#### End of Year Celebrations

As Mr Hagger explained in his last letter, Speech Day cannot run in the usual way this year. However, we will be celebrating the positive and enthusiastic learning that went on in and out of school over the past year in a series of special assemblies. We will be inviting parents from Early Years to Year 6 to join us for the class End of Year Celebrations. Pupils from Year 7 to Year 11 will also have a celebratory event but owing to numbers being higher in the Seniors, we will be inviting pupils and staff only.

The Oak Tree Group Marketing Team will be at all of these events, and photographs and video footage will be available for you to view afterwards. The dates are as follows:

Date	Time	Year group
29 June	9am	2 and 3
29 June	10am	4 and 5
29 June	11am	7 and 8
2 July	9am	Early Years
2 July	10am	Year 6
2 July	11am	9 and 10
2 July	3pm	Year 11

Junior parents, please make sure that you save the date and time. If the restrictions are lifted, I look forward to welcoming you into school to celebrate with us. We will still go ahead with the events as shown above with pupils and teachers, even if the Government's Road Map does not go ahead as planned with regard to gatherings.

Again, as your child will have the opportunity to have a photo taken and take part in a formal event, uniform must be correct. I have explained more about this below and the link is in the above section in Sports Day.

### **Assessment Week**

As I have already outlined, Assessment Week for ALL pupils will be the week beginning 14 June, with the exception of Senior ICT. ICT assessments will be the week beginning 7 June.

Junior pupils from Year 1 to 6 will have INCAS testing throughout the week which is supported by their class teacher. These assessments take place on line and pupils will use the computers in the ICT room to complete them. Pupils in Reception will have their Baseline Assessment during this week. Pupils in Years 3 to 6 will also have End of Year Exams. Revision for these exams for Year 3 to 6 will be supported by the class teacher in the lead up to these assessments.

Senior pupils will also have End of Year Exams. Staff will be setting revision lists for pupils to work through over the half term break. We usually have exams straight after the half term, but in consultation with staff, we felt it fair to delay these to give pupils the best opportunity to revise. Form Tutors will be uploading some helpful material about revision techniques to Show My Homework this week. Please do read these helpful tips to support your daughter during the revision process.

### **LAMDA Exams**

Pupils have been working exceptionally hard for their final LAMDA exams. Mrs Braithwaite has provided an extended schedule to enable pupils to practise in school time and they have been preparing well. The exams will be held on 8 and 9 June. Please support and encourage your daughter to learn, recite and perform her LAMDA pieces at home in the run up to these externally examined assessments.

### **Plans for the End of Term**

Since we have been unable to take part in trips this year, we have planned some fun and exciting events for the end of the term.

**Tuesday 6 July: Moving Up Day** for junior pupils and for pupils who will be joining Year 7. This is when pupils have the opportunity to meet their new teacher and other key members of staff who will be working with them. I will write again nearer the time with more information about the logistics of the day and any other requirements.

**Wednesday 7 July: Charity Fundraising Event.** Year 4 have initiated and helped organise a charity fundraising event for the British Heart Foundation that will involve participation from the whole school. Pupils in Year 4 generated an idea and have worked with me, Mrs Copeman and Miss Barrett to organise some outdoor activities that involve physical activity. More details about the day will follow.

**Thursday 8 July: Cricket Event.** Year 9 pupils have designed a day of cricket fun for all of Braeside to enjoy. Cricket is a fairly recent addition to the PE curriculum with pupils having coaching sessions delivered by a coach from the Woodford Wells Cricket Club. They have thoroughly enjoyed these sessions and wanted a way to celebrate the end of the year and their new sport initiative – CricketFest. The day will be a fun festival type event on the London Corporation Field adjacent to the school with an outdoor lunch. We have fingers crossed for fair weather!

I am incredibly grateful for the leadership skills and teamwork that Year 4 and Year 9 have shown in organising these events.

### **Face coverings and Social Distancing**

As you will have read in Mr Hagger's letter about arrangements in school after 17 May, face coverings are no longer recommended by the Department for Education for pupils. However, staff will still be wearing them in communal areas where social distancing is not possible. Some pupils are choosing to wear them in communal areas and we support their decision to do so. A gentle reminder that disposable masks must be disposed of daily in a bin at home (not in school) and that fabric coverings must be washed daily too. Some members of staff may prefer senior pupils to wear a mask and we will provide disposable masks in school. Again, I would like to congratulate senior pupils on their respectful and responsible response to face coverings.

Parents, please ensure that you distance yourselves at pick-up and drop-off times around the gates and Main Entrance. Please also be reminded to wear a mask on the school premises if you are visiting. Hand gel is available at each entrance for pupils and visitors to use.

### **Parking for Drop-off and Pick-up**

I am sure you will agree that the separate entrance and exit points for pick-up and drop-off have worked incredibly well this year and have made for a smooth and calm start and finish to the day. Thank you in supporting that process.

Please be mindful when dropping your child to breakfast club, that staff also arrive to school at that time and need to access parking on the site. Please pull forward into the drive (in line with the school minibus) and walk your daughter to the front entrance. Here, she will be greeted by a member of staff. At times we have had several members of staff waiting to start their day because they cannot access the parking spaces.

### **Uniform**

With the exciting introduction of boys in September 2021, we are currently reviewing the uniform for all pupils. I will be consulting with your child in the next few weeks as to the proposed changes. Any changes to the uniform will be timely and considered, in a phased way to ensure that our families have the time and resources to respond to uniform changes.

Black opaque tights were compulsory for senior pupils from September 2020. They are not permitted to wear black or white socks. I have been lenient on these items this year as I am mindful that we haven't had access to shops in the usual way. However, black tights **MUST** be worn by senior pupils from September 2021. White or black socks will only be permitted when the weather is hot and I will notify parents when this will be.

Black opaque tights, black or white knee length socks are permitted for junior pupils. Junior pupils have not been permitted to wear white tights or brown socks or tights since 2019. Please make sure that your daughter has the correct uniform in September.

### **Pupil Wellbeing**

National Mental Health Week was marked by a junior and senior assembly last week explaining the importance of mental well-being for our school community. Mrs Copeman and I delivered some tips on looking after mental health and the seniors were shown a free App that they could download for support and advice. Please have a look for yourself at the Kooth video that explains the functions of the app: <https://www.kooth.com/video>.

In conjunction with Friends of Braeside School (FOBS) we are looking at ways that they can contribute to the well-being of pupils by creating calm spaces in our beautiful gardens so that all pupils can enjoy peace and tranquillity at break and lunchtime. I hope to have an update on this by the end of the term.

## FOBS

FOBS are hoping to launch some fun on-line events for pupils to take part in at the end of the Summer Term. We also have some school based events planned for the Autumn Term. In my last letter of the year, I hope to announce some dates for your diary.

I hope that with the safe easing of restrictions, life returns to some form of normality. We are constantly guiding and supporting your daughter through the next stages of these changing times. Pupils have shown resilience and courage throughout this term and I hope we are able to celebrate with the exciting events planned!

### Forthcoming Events

Mon 7 June	Nutrition & Mindful Eating Workshop Year 8
Tues 8 June	LAMDA Junior Examinations
Tues 8 June	Year 9 Core and Options Subjects Parents' Meeting
Weds 9 June	LAMDA Senior Examinations
Fri 11 June	Year 11 Jurassic Falls Adventure Golf Trip
Mon 14 June	Nutrition & Mindful Eating Workshop Year 8
Weds 16 June	Year 8 HPV2 Vaccinations
Thurs 17 June	Year 10 GCSE Drama Workshop at Normanhurst School
Mon 21 June	Year 10 GCSE Spoken English Examination
Tues 22 June	School Class Photographs
Weds 23 June	Year 10 GCSE Spoken English Examination
Thurs & Fri 24 & 25 June	Years 5 & 6 Lambourne End Residential Visit
Mon 28 June	Nutrition & Mindful Eating Workshop Year 8
Mon 5 July	Braeside Sports Day

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 ALBION HILL, LOUGHTON, ESSEX IG10 4RA

GROUP MANAGING PRINCIPAL & DIRECTOR: MR MATTHEW HAGGER B.A. (HONS), M.ED., PGCE CO-DIRECTORS: MR NICHOLAS HAGGER M.A. (OXON), MRS ANN HAGGER CERT. ED.

Braeside School is the trading name of Braeside School Ltd; registered in England at 6 Albion Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 4RA; company number 0783067

