



Braeside School

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HEADMISTRESS

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20 April 2022

Dear Parents

Re: April 2022 Headmistress's Letter

At the end of the Spring Term we had been enjoying the warmer weather and taking advantage of the space in our garden and the local area for sport and walks outside. We have also been branching out on trips further afield now that restrictions have lifted and places of interest are open. Finally, our older pupils and younger pupils have been able to mix and make friendships across the school now that they have the freedom to do so. We are certainly seeing the benefits of an all-through school as the year has opened up more opportunity to do so.

Staff Changes

At the end of the Spring Term we said farewell to Mrs Carruthers in the office who stepped in to fill the position of admissions registrar after Mrs Amey's retirement in the Autumn term. I am delighted to welcome Mrs Cubitt who will be replacing Mrs Carruthers. Mrs Cubitt has been working in the office at Normanhurst School so she is very familiar with the processes and practices that the Oak-Tree Group follow. Please welcome her if you speak to her on the phone as she will be in the office taking your calls from the start of the Summer Term.

Mrs Hucbourg has moved on to a new position in a local state school. Mrs Hucbourg has made languages fun and engaging for pupils and we wish her well in this new chapter. Mrs Rodway will be joining us in September. I have had the pleasure of working with Mrs Rodway in a previous local school. She is currently head of Modern Foreign Languages at Epping St John's and she will be coordinating languages (both French and Spanish) with Mrs Braithwaite continuing to teach Year 7 French. The Summer Term will be covered by a local supply teacher and also Mrs Kimpton (who teaches Spanish at Normanhurst School). Year 10 will have Mr Bibby as their interim Form Tutor and I will be teaching them PSHE for the rest of the Summer Term.

I am pleased to announce some developments to the Senior Leadership Team from September 2022. Miss Wood becomes the Deputy Head when Mrs Copeman moves to Oaklands School in September. Miss Wood has been the Year 6 teacher and also the Assistant Head for the past 3 years and she is very much looking forward to her new role. As Braeside continues to grow, we are building capacity in the leadership team: Miss Barrett will be an Assistant Head responsible for the pastoral aspects of school life across all year groups and I will be announcing a new Head of Seniors in next month's letter.

The above promotions have meant that we have had some teaching posts to fill. We will be joined by Miss Hearne and Mrs Barr in September who will be filling the junior teaching roles. Miss Hearne has re-located back to the area and has been teaching at a primary school in Hertfordshire. Mrs Barr has had extensive experience in both prep schools and state primary schools in the local area. We welcome them to the Braeside community in September.

Summer uniform reminders

Pupils are still expected to bring their blazers to school in the warmer months. Senior pupils will still be wearing black tights until I notify parents that the weather is warm enough for socks. Until this notification, Seniors must still wear tights with a skirt.

Junior pupils can have the option of either wearing the Summer or Winter uniform for the first half of the Summer Term. The summer uniform becomes compulsory after the May half term break. Please see the uniform list on the website for the correct colour tights and socks. Brown socks have not been permitted for a few years now. Please consult the uniform list on the website: <https://www.braesideschool.co.uk/parents-pupils/school-uniform/>.

Another reminder is that all pupils MUST have their hair tied neatly back if it is long enough to do so. If pupils have short hair and it interferes with their vision, please clip hair back. Hair accessories should be appropriate for school. They must be brown, blue or black.

New Uniform

Please be aware that our uniform changes in September. Mr Hagger wrote to all parents in the Summer Term of 2021 to give parents advance notice and to introduce the new navy blue jumper and blazer that pupils should be wearing from September 2022. Mr Hagger will write out again with the details this term.

Exams this term

As you already aware, our Year 11 pupils go on Study Leave on Friday 6 May. Please speak to your child about these public exams and the importance of respecting the rules such as being quiet near the Studio (where the exams are taking place). Year 11 will have a special assembly and brunch with the staff on the last day of their school career at Braeside. We wish them the very best of luck!

All pupils in Year 1 to Year 10 will have End of Year Exams after the May half term break. Senior pupils will be given a timetable and revision lists will be published on Show My Homework in advance of the exams. Please encourage your child to start their revision as soon as they have the information. We will focus our PSHE lessons and form time on revision techniques and mindfulness for exams. Exams are important for staff and pupils to know how well children have progressed over the year. We will be explaining this to the children this term.

New entrance

A reminder that Year 1 will now be dropped off and picked up at the Junior side gate on Ardmore Lane. This is to prepare pupils for the next phase in their life at Braeside. We hope it will help pupils to feel settled in September and promote independence and confidence in the year ahead.

Sun protection

Hopefully we will have some sunnier days ahead. Please apply your child's sun cream before they come to school in the morning. If your child requires a 'top up' during the day, please complete the relevant forms and send the cream in with your child. Please make sure your child is proficient in applying their own sun cream. Although there are adequate areas to shade, younger children should wear a sunhat for extra protection. These are a Braeside branded 'legionnaire' style cap. Please ensure that sunhats have your child's name clearly written in it.

Requesting absences

I would be very grateful if you could request an absence in advance of the time your child will be taking off from school for an appointment. The absence request form can be found on the school website: <https://www.braesideschool.co.uk/parents-pupils/forms-to-complete/>
Please contact the office to let them know that your child will not be in first thing in the morning. You can also email the office too.

Dropping off at the front of school

If you are dropping your child at school at the front entrance in the morning, please only get out the car when a member of staff can receive your child. This way, the drop off is swift and safe for all users of the driveway. Please be aware that students of all ages can often use the front entrance and I ask that you are mindful of pupil pedestrians by driving at a safe speed in and out of the drive. Also be mindful that staff are attempting to park and start their day at work so please allow them space to park. Similarly, once you have collected your child from school, please exit as soon as you can to allow other parents to collect their children from school.

Clubs

If you require Breakfast Club before school or Tea Time Club after school, please complete the on-line form on the Braeside website to secure your space and avoid disappointment. Please remember to supply school with a password if your child is in the Juniors – this is Early Years through to Year 6. This helps staff handover your child safely to an adult at the end of the activity or club if they are unfamiliar with the adult collecting your child. Please always phone the school before 3:30pm if the pick-up arrangements have changed.

Oak-Tree Summer Ball 2022

The Oak-Tree Summer Ball is fast approaching, and after a 3-year absence, it is looking to be bigger and better than ever. The deadline for ticket purchases is Wednesday 18 May, as we need to inform the venue about final numbers, so be sure not to leave it too late. Tickets can be purchased [HERE](#).

There is no need to wait until you have a full table to purchase tickets. Inform us when completing your booking form about seating preferences and our admin team will arrange tables for you. Alternatively, they will seat you with other parents from your child's school.

The venue has rooms available if you wish to stay the night, and we are pleased to announce we have secured a 10% discount for all those attending the Ball. Please email room requests to specialevents@chigwellprinceregent.co.uk and the team will be able to assist you. It is set to be a wonderful evening with plenty of Great Gatsby themed entertainment, food and drink throughout the night. We hope to see you all there to support our Parents' Associations.

Speech Day 2022

You are cordially invited to Speech Day on Friday 1 July 2022. I will write to you nearer the time with the exact format and also the timings of the event. Please note that we ask pupils to be in full school uniform for this formal event. Please ensure that uniform is laundered, skirts, shirts and trousers are the correct size and that your child has a blazer. Jumpers will not be required for this event owing to the temperature.

Pupil well-being

I hope you found the E-safety presentation by EST (The 2 Johns) helpful and informative. You can be on the pulse with information from them by following their social media accounts. One topic that they mentioned was the use of an app called Tik Tok. Mr Masood would like me to share this article on the app with you in light of the topic being discussed during the presentation: <https://nypost.com/2022/03/12/tiktok-has-become-a-dangerous-mental-disorder-breeding-ground/>

Dates for the Diary

Please make a note of the following dates for this term:

Thurs 21 April	First Day of Summer Term
Fri 22 April	Year 9-11 Travelling Shakespeare
Tues 26 April	Year 9 DTP/Meningitis immunisations
Wed 4 May	Junior Netball @ Park School
Fri 6 May	Year 11 Last Day
Fri 6 May	Year 5&6 Young Voices @ O2
Mon 9 May	Year 3&4 Football @ Chigwell School
Tues 10 May	Year 9&10 Football @ Chigwell School
Fri 13 May	Year 5&6 Football @ Chigwell School
Mon 16 May	Year 11 GCSE Exams begin
Wed 25 May	Year 4 Petrie & British Museum
Wed 25 May	Year 7&8 Football @ Chigwell School
Thurs 26 May	Year 6 Velodrome trip
Mon 30 May – Fri 3 Jun	Half-Term

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself, Mrs Copeman or Miss Wood.

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 CERTIFIED

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