



# Braeside School

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## HEADMISTRESS

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

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2 November 2022

Dear Parents

### Re: Headmistress's Letter

Thank you for your attendance at meetings, curriculum mornings, Harvest Festival, sports fixtures and Parents Evening this term. It has been wonderful to meet you all and to talk about your child's progress and development. We have many more events coming up over the second half of the Autumn Term and I have highlighted these in the letter so that you are clear when activities are happening. We will, of course, speak to the pupils to make sure they are prepared for the events too.

### Staff Additions

We are delighted to welcome Miss Williams to our Breakfast Club team who will be replacing Mrs Jackson. Mrs Jackson has worked with both Senior and Junior pupils since 2016 in Breakfast Club, swimming runs, lunchtime and GCSE exams invigilation. She has enjoyed a varied role but now wants to spend time with her grandchildren. We are very grateful for the support and care she has given our students over the years. Miss Williams has had a range of experience working in schools in the local area both in and out of the classroom environment. She has worked in a nursery setting too. Please do say hello and welcome her to Braeside when she starts after half term.

### Assessments and Results

If your child is in Early Years (Kindergarten and Reception) you would have been given access to your Evidence Me account back in August. Teaching staff regularly update you on your child's progress via this platform. It is a two way platform that allows parents to interact with the progress updates on a weekly basis. Please ensure that you look at these updates regularly to inform your discussions at home about your child's learning experience. It would be very beneficial for you to interact with the programme to show us what your child has been doing at home.

Pupils in the Seniors had assessments before half term. Pupils then have individual feedback on their assessments and have the chance to respond in green pen. This is a chance for your child to re-do any questions that they found challenging after they have had their feedback. Please do engage with this process by asking your child to show you their books and assessment papers so that they can articulate what they need to do to improve. The next assessment week for Seniors will be from 5 – 9 December and reports will follow for pupils in Year 7-10.

### Dropping Off and Collecting your Child

**A polite reminder that Year 1 will now be collected and dropped off at the Junior Gate on Ardmore Lane from 7 November.** This is to ease congestion at the front of the school at the busiest times. Also, please pull as far forward in the drive as possible when collecting your child from school, to ease the build-up of traffic behind you. You can also park in the surrounding roads while collecting your child.

Can I also remind you that After School Club (Tea-Time Club) is a provision up to and including Year 6. Pupils in Year 7 and beyond are expected to sign up for a club themselves and make their own way home after the club, or at the end of the school day. Please be aware of this so you can make arrangements with your child regarding their journey home.

### Residents around the School

Pupils at Braeside have been practising festive songs ahead of the schedule of events in December. Senior pupils have decided to invite some of the local residents to a school-based event called 'Songs Around the Christmas Tree' in the last week of term. Residents of Ardmore Lane and Hawsted (our neighbouring roads) will be given invitations to hear the children sing, read and have a cup of tea and mince pie. I am very proud of our pupils for suggesting we provide some entertainment for the local community to enjoy.

### Charitable Events this half term

This term, Senior pupils have organised a Christmas collection for the Epping Forest Foodbank. Having donated so many items on behalf of the Juniors Harvest collection, Year 11 were spurred into action by supporting the foodbank's Christmas campaign. A letter has been sent to Senior parents requesting specific Christmas items between **Monday 7 and Friday 11 November**. Year 11 will be delivering these to the foodbank on Monday 14 November and would be incredibly grateful for items donated (from the list in the letter).

All pupils in school will be asked to support our yearly event for Children In Need. A letter will be sent out to all of our families detailing the ways in which we will be supporting the charity this year (as we do every year). The day will be on **Friday 18 November**.

On **Tuesday 13 December** it will be Festive Wear Day. We will be supporting the charity Action for Children again this year. Pupils will be invited to wear festive items for the day in exchange for a small donation. Again, we will write to you separately about this event.

### Pre-loved Uniform by FOBS

I am delighted to announce that FOBS have taken ownership of the 'pre-loved uniform' sales for this academic year. We would be delighted to accept the following Braeside uniform items: navy jumpers, navy blazers, skirts / kilts, pinafores, summer dresses, grey uniform trousers, Braeside tie, PE hoodies and PE leggings. These must, of course, be the Braeside branded uniform. FOBS will be collecting this uniform after the Festive Break (in January) ready for a sale in the Spring Term.

### Autumn Activities and Christmas Schedule

This is a brief outline of events that have been planned for the festive period. I thought it be useful to detail these in chronological order. All events will be communicated to you directly nearer the date regarding timings and practical information about your attendance.

On **Friday 2 December** Pupils in Kindergarten and Reception will be invited to a trip to Lobella Café in Loughton to a Christmas Special afternoon tea to meet Father Christmas and spend time with their friends. This has been scheduled for the morning and is available for pupils who attend the Friday session. Parents are not required to attend this event.

On **Friday 9 December** pupils from Kindergarten to Year 6 will be performing their Nativity play and songs at St James Church in Palmerston Road in the afternoon. We have been working towards the energetic songs, dancing and script and pupils will all have an aspect of performance in this Nativity event. Parents will be invited to this event.

On **Monday 12 December**, FOBS and Braeside School staff will be holding our annual Christmas Activity Event that includes a DJ and party entertainer, craft activities, food and sweet stalls. The number of staff members in attendance outweighs the supporters from FOBS. Please do get in touch with FOBS if you can support by giving

your time or supplying some of the items that we need for the event. Pupils from Kindergarten to Year 9 will be invited to this event planned for after school.

On **Tuesday 13 December** it will be Christmas Dinner day for all pupils in the school. Pupils (and staff) very much look forward to a traditional roast dinner and scrumptious Christmassy dessert. This will also be Festive Wear Day for all pupils in the school. This is also the day where Key Stage 3 pupils will be hosting an event for the residents in the local area.

**Wednesday 14 December** is the annual Pantomime visit for pupils from Kindergarten to Year 8. Braeside has purchased tickets that fill most of the theatre and pupils will be transported on a coach there and back. FOBS have kindly offered to pay for the ice cream treat in the interval again this year. The Year 11 prefect team will also be helping at this event.

### **Pupil well-being**

Senior pupils are able to use an email address that has been shared on Show My Homework to report their feelings if they cannot find an adult to tell. I have also included some links that would be useful to all pupils and our families in the school for mental well-being support. It is also really important that pupils share how they are feeling so that we can support them effectively in a timely manner.

I hope you find some of these sources of information helpful:

- [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)
- [www.themix.org.uk](http://www.themix.org.uk)
- [www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)

Please do speak to your child's teacher, form tutor or a member of the Senior Leadership Team if you have any concerns.

### **Dates for the Diary**

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

Fri 11 Nov	Year 8 & Year 9 Flamenco Demo Year 2 & Year 4 Trip to Colchester Zoo Year 10 GSCE Trip to Waltham Abbey
Tues 15 Nov	Year 10 Parents Evening Junior House Football
Thurs 17 Nov	Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6 Trip to Waltham Forest Mosque
Fri 18 Nov	Children in Need U9 & U11 Indoor Athletics
Mon 21 Nov	Senior House Football Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6 Trip to Barbican
Tues 22 Nov	Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6 Oaktree indoor Athletics
Wed 23 Nov	Year 6 Trip to British Museum
Thurs 24 Nov	Year 4 ISA Football competition
Fri 25 Nov	Year 5 & Year 6 WESSP Tag Rugby
Tue 29 Nov	Year 7 Parents Evening Year 5 Netball Vs Woodford Prep
Thur 1 Dec	Year 8 Trip to Stubbers
Fri 2 Dec	Junior Choir singing Christmas event EYFS Tea and Father Christmas
Fri 9 Dec	Kindergarten -Year 6 Nativity
Mon 12 Dec	Lower Kindergarten – Year 8 Christmas Activity
Tues 13 Dec	Years 7- 9 Songs around the Christmas tree Festival Jumper Day Christmas Dinner

Wed 14 Dec  
Thur 15 Dec

Lower Kindergarten – Year 8 Harlow Playhouse Pantomime Trip  
End of Term – school ends at 12.00pm

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

With kind regards

Yours sincerely



Chloe Moon  
Headmistress



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