



May 2023



Item	Page
<u>Headmistresses' Message.....</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>NYDS Drama Workshop.....</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Fire, Fire!</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Oak-Tree Ski Trip 2023.....</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>UKMT Junior Maths Challenge.....</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Year 6 Bikeability.....</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Year 2 Investigate Castles.....</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Duxford IWM.....</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Seniors Peri Concert 2023.....</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Egg-Celent Chicks.....</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>An Afternoon Of Art.....</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Mexico Day.....</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>The Last Lunch For Year 11.....</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Year 11 Leaver's Lunch.....</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Laser Tag.....</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>Yarn Club.....</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>Coronation Celebrations.....</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Kindergarten Go To Space.....</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Year 9 Cake Sale.....</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>First Aid.....</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Oak-Tree Festival.....</u>	<u>12</u>

Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents

It is an end of an era for our current Year 11 pupils who we have had to say good luck and farewell to as they start Study Leave in preparation for their forthcoming GCSE exams. They finished their time at Braeside on Leaver's Day by being clapped and honked off the site by all their friends from Kindergarten to Year 10. It was an emotional day for all of us!

Pupils who came back from the recent ski trip had lots of exciting stories to tell their friends about the fabulous experiences they had in the snow. It was lovely to hear about their friendships that had developed with pupils across the Oak Tree Schools whilst on the excursion.

Finally, thank you for supporting the school by attending the amazing Oak-Tree Music Festival. I am so very grateful for your support of your children at events like this. It was wonderful to see all of our pupils on stage at the same time.

As always, we have had some exciting sports competitions through the ISA and other schools which we have had good representation in.

Best wishes

Mrs Chloe Moon

NYDS Drama Workshop

We were lucky enough to have two members of the National Youth Dance Company join us for the morning as part of their school workshops programme. The dancers worked with our Year 7 and 8 pupils over two sessions. The morning started with a warm-up and a repertoire from Alesandra Seutin's 'Speak Volumes', before the dancers gave our pupils a bit more creative freedom to develop the material.

The children also had the chance to learn more about NYDC via a short video, and ask any questions they had about the company. The workshop was led by NYDC Alumni; young artists who have been through the company themselves and can share their experience and knowledge of being professional artists. A big thank you to both for coming down and giving our pupils such an informative and enjoyable morning.



Fire, Fire! Year 1 Recreate The Great Fire Of London

Year 1 ended their History topic 'The Great Fire of London' in a fun and memorable way. They used the 3D Tudor style houses they made using card/wood to recreate the Great Fire of London in a small scale. What an amazing sight!



Oak-Tree Ski Trip 2023

Our pupils are back from an INCREDIBLE week skiing in Italy. Every day the pupils from all four schools in the Oak-Tree Group woke up with renewed excitement, ready to hit the slopes. There were pupils at all skill levels, from those that have never been skiing before to those that were at a more advanced level.

Pupils were very lucky to have had excellent skiing conditions and the ski school instructors were pleased with our children's endurance. Everyone made quick progress.

After a long day out on the mountains, the evenings were filled with relaxed dinners together back at the hotel, or at the local pizza restaurant, followed by films and games.

Pupils agreed it was one of the best weeks they have ever had, filled with laughter, new experiences, and new friendships.



UKMT Junior Maths Challenge

Ten senior girls in Years 7 and 8 had the opportunity to participate in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge.

Year 7 – Amaya, Jaswitha and Eliza

Year 8 – Maya A, Maya V, Susannah, Sienna, Eliza, Riana and Ireland

This event is a sixty-minute, multiple choice competition aimed at the top Mathematics students across the UK. Pupils are stretched to use their mathematical reasoning, precision, logic and fluency in using mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems. The competition this year was taken online.

A Gold award will be given to the top 6-7% of the entrants, the Silver award for the top 13-14% of the entrants and the Bronze award will go to the top 21% of the entrants. Follow up rounds, Kangaroo and Olympiads are then offered to the pupils who achieve the very top scores.

We cannot wait to see what they all achieved! If you want to try some of the questions, they are available on the UKMT website: <https://www.ukmt.org.uk/competitions/solo/junior-mathematical-challenge/archive>



United Kingdom
Mathematics Trust

Year 6 Bikeability

Year 6 have taken part in two Bikeability sessions to complete their Level 1 and Level 2 courses to enable them to be safer when cycling on the roads. They learnt how to signal correctly, as well as how the highway code applies to cyclists and how they can keep themselves safe when cycling. It was lovely to practice cycling on the roads in Buckhurst Hill and see their confidence improve.



Year 2 Investigate Castles

In Design and Technology, Year 2 have been investigating different types of castles. In small groups, using recycled materials, the children made their own castles. The result looks fantastic!



Duxford IWM

Year 9 travelled to Duxford Imperial War Museum on Wednesday to meet two war veterans from WWII and from The Falklands and Gulf War. Pupils prepared well-thought out and sensitive questions about the conditions of war and the physical and psychological impact of war. The veterans answered questions and told stories from their past. Pupils were very grateful to have had this experience.

Pupils then visited the American Air Museum where we saw a reconditioned B52 Bomber Plane and other Air Force planes. Pupils went into the control rooms to learn about the importance of communication services that were operated by women at Duxford.

The highlight of the trip was the taking off of a real Spitfire plane that was used in the RAF during the war. We also were lucky enough to see the Queen's private jet and board Concorde! Pupils finished the day with an ice cream as they watched the small aircraft prepare for the King's Coronation display.

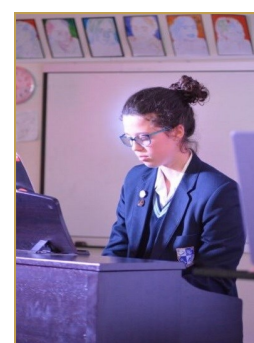
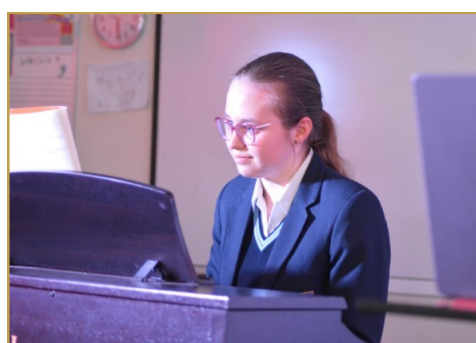
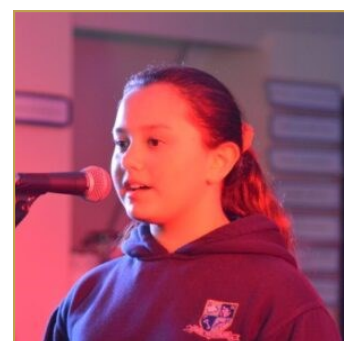
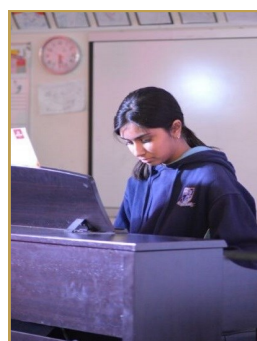


Seniors Peri Concert 2023

Well done to the pupils who took part in the Senior Peri Concert.

This was an incredible opportunity for our pupils to showcase their progress in their musical journey. Mr R-S outlined the importance of keeping going and investing time into their instruments, and it is clear to see that our pupils have done just that.

We had pieces on the guitar, violin, piano, and even a few vocal numbers. It was incredible to see the pupils overcome their nerves and perform in front of an audience. Keep up the good work!



Egg-Celent Chicks

"Recently, the Year 5 class have been hatching and taking care of the school's chicks. They are being collected at the beginning of half-term. On Tuesday 2 May, 8 eggs arrived and were put into an incubator, one brown, one beige and the other six were white. The next day, a crack began to form in the beige egg. We expected the egg to hatch overnight, but another one did instead. Over a few days, they all hatched out.

The chicks of Braeside are now the talk of the school and loved by everyone. They have very individual personalities and are adored by all the staff and children. The chicks have been very therapeutic for all of us, especially our Year 11's before their daunting exams." **By Katherine, Year 5**



Sarah Graham Visits Braeside For An Afternoon Of Art

Renowned British artist Sarah Graham came in to host a painting workshop. Sarah works in acrylic and oils and her work is based on everything nostalgic including toys and sweets, creating larger-than-life, photorealistic art. The workshop started with a talk about Sarah's life and accomplishments as an artist including commissions from The Keizer Chiefs and Harrods. Pupils then warmed up with a charcoal activity before going on to produce a bold and vibrant painting. It was a fantastic opportunity and an amazing experience. Well done everyone!



Mexico Day

It was Mexico Day in the Braeside kitchen this term. Pupils could taste Mexican cuisine and had a chance to play music and games that originated in Mexico. Some of our younger pupils tried on some sombreros! Harriet in reception said 'this hat is funny and I like wearing it when I am eating my lunch!'. Finn said 'I am waving the Mexico flag!' and Ronnie and Liam in Kindergarten loved their chilli and nachos.



The Last Lunch For Year 11

Year 11 tucked into a special lunch as their time at school came to an end. Steve, our head chef, prepared a delicious chocolate cake for them to enjoy at their own table, where they reminisced over their time at Braeside.



Year 11's Last Day

Year 11 organised a lovely last Assembly with photos, awards for staff and a touching video. Staff paid tribute to their hard work and efforts over the years and wished them the best of luck for their forthcoming exams and their future.

All of our staff and pupils formed a human arch in the gardens which Year 11 ran through. They then boarded the school minibus for the last time to head to Molen's Brasserie for a tasty brunch.

Staff and pupils will miss Year 11 very much and we wish them the very best of luck!



Laser Tag

Year 11 opted for their last PE lesson of the year to have something different about it. They wanted teamwork and excitement and chose Laser Tag at Mayhem in Abridge for their last physical activity at Braeside. Miss Barret and Mrs Moon formed part of the teams – neon yellow versus neon orange. Pupils and staff were given combat overalls, a hat with tags on and a laser gun.

Teams had to work together in various scenarios to win the match. We found out that communication, planning and stealth were key to an effective defence. Year 11 had so much fun as a team and trying to tag the staff. Lovely weather helped the overall experience too!



Yarn Club

Pupils attending Yarn Club this term have had a lovely time creating yarn canvases. Fiber art is something the pupils haven't explored before so it has been especially fun to try something new.

Before choosing their yarns and designs, pupils thought about shapes, patterns and movement.

The pieces are coming along really well and pupils have said how therapeutic and calm they feel whilst creating.

We can't wait to see what they look like when they are finished.





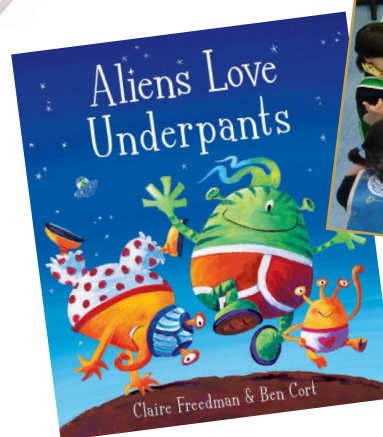
Coronation Celebrations

Coronation fever has hit Braeside! The children had a lovely day dressing up in red, white and blue, creating beautiful crowns and enjoying a delicious tea party!



Kindergarten Go To Space

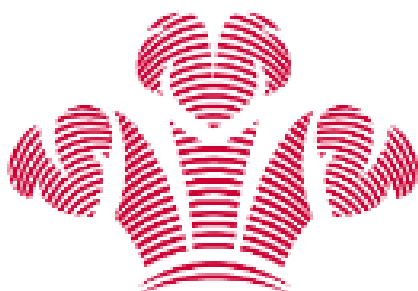
Kindergarten have loved learning about space. They made spaceships out of recycling, made playdough aliens and decorated brightly coloured underpants because aliens love underpants!



Year 9 Cake Sale

Year 9 Oak-Tree Challenge pupils organised a cake sale for The Prince's Trust on Friday 5 May. They bought cakes – vegan and non-vegan – to sell to parents and pupils after school. They organised a float, table, blue gloves, posters and communication. They raised £72 in one sale!

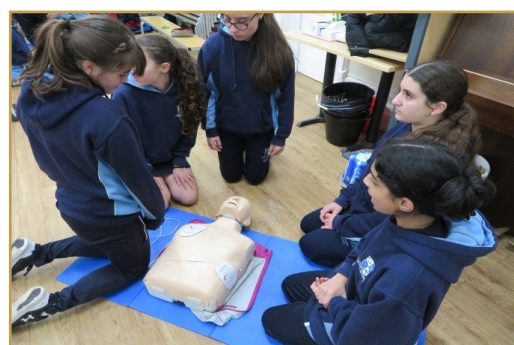
We are very grateful to all the parents and pupils that supported them and the charity.



Prince's Trust

First Aid

Year 9 took part in a first aid session run by First Aid Limited as part of their PSHE curriculum. They learnt how to perform CPR and use defibrillators, knowledge that could help save lives. All the pupils were very engaged in the session and have learnt important life saving skills.



Oak-Tree Festival

WOW - WHAT AN EVENING!

The Oak-Tree Festival 2023 was held on the evening of Tuesday 16 May, and what an event it was. All four of the Oak-Tree Schools came together for what is always one of the biggest events in the Oak-Tree calendar. Pupils, teachers and parents have been eagerly awaiting this ambitious project held at the City Pavilion in Collier Row, and it was a great success.

All children from Year 3 to Year 8 took part, as well as a few other senior musicians, making a total of around 370 pupils.

The programme was lively and varied, with singing performances, an orchestra, samba bands, soloists and much more. The children loved performing in front of such a large audience of around 600 parents and friends, even though it may have been slightly daunting at first!

It was a fantastic evening that helped to showcase the varied talent of the pupils from the Oak-Tree Schools. Well done everyone!

