



# Braeside School

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## HEADMISTRESS

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

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1 July 2023

Dear Parents

### Re: Headmistress's Letter

We have had several trips and activities this term, as well as the end of exam season for all pupils in the school. Pupils should now be aware of the next steps in their learning as staff have communicated this via our feedback processes. Senior pupils must be aware of these targets to improve and must factor this into their revision over the Summer. Junior pupils must think about what they need to practise before moving up a year.

We are also be preparing for Speech Day and Prize Giving at the end of the term. Your child may be involved in the rehearsals for this and may be asked to bring their instrument to school on days other than their lessons.

### Uniform

The Summer Holidays are a good time to think about replacing your child's footwear for school. Please read the uniform list very carefully and choose shoes that adhere to the list. We do not allow canvas shoes, boots, trainers or shoes that resemble trainer. We also do not allow 'Kicker' shoes.

Please refresh any items of uniform prior to September as the uniform shop (Forest Casuals) can be incredibly busy towards the end of the Summer Holiday. FOBS will be holding a pre-loved uniform sale in June for parents to purchase pre-worn, good quality uniform items. If you have any items to donate, please do so by 10 June. No brown items please!

Please note that hair must be neatly tied back if it is longer than chin length. Please supply your child with clips to hold back tendrils that may fall in their eyes and obstruct their vision. Hair accessories should be discreet and in the colours of black or blue / navy.

The Senior School Council have proposed PE shorts for pupils as of next year. These will be available over the summer ready for September. Our pupils said that would like these as an alternative to the skort. The skort is still part of the uniform, should you prefer that option. We thought choice would enable pupils to feel comfortable in participating in all aspects of sport.

### Sun protection

We hope we have a sunny end to the term! Please make sure that your child is wearing sunscreen on arrival to school as we cannot apply this for them. We have adequate shade on the site to ensure that play time is comfortable, cool and provides protection. Please also provide your child with a water bottle that can be refilled during the day.

### FOBS raffle

Thank you to those parents that have organised lovely raffle prizes for the FOBS raffle at the end of the term. We will be announcing this at the end of the term. Please make sure that you are available to collect your prize should you win. We are very grateful to those parents that own businesses and have donated from their enterprise so generously.

### Mobile phones next year

We are continuing to get reports of pupils using applications that are inappropriate for their age. Year 7 and 8 no longer have their phones in their locker during the day. They hand them in to the office at the start of the day. **Next academic year, Year 7, 8 and 9 will have to hand their phone in during the day.**

Please monitor your child's use of devices and applications on a regular basis. Please be mindful of the applications they are using and what impact it may have on their self-esteem and perspectives on life. Many applications have age restrictions for a reason. There are occasions when we have to deal with incidents of application misuse in school because a member of our school community has been allowed on an application that is not appropriate for their age. As you can appreciate, it is difficult to investigate when this happens outside of school. It also takes away the time we have for supporting pupils when we are spending it investigating something that happens at home.

Please continue to use controls to allow your child to use devices safely. If you need support in applying these controls, please visit: <https://www.internetmatters.org/digital-family-toolkit/>

### Forthcoming events

Speech Day will take place in the marquee on site in the afternoon of **Friday 7 July** and we ask that all pupils attend including current Year 11 pupils. Parents should also attend. The Early Years Celebration earlier in the day. Details will be with you shortly. The same applies for Sports Day at Lee Valley Athletics Centre on **Monday 10 July**. There are specific details about pick-up on this day and you must read this information carefully when it is sent to you. If your daughter is in Year 11 and would like to support our younger pupils, please let us know as we would love them to be involved in the day.

Cricketfest was organised by our current Year 11 pupils and has remained on the school calendar ever since 2020. Pupils across the school play cricket in houses over the course of the day and we have a picnic lunch and ice lollies as part of the event. It will be on **11 July** and pupils must wear PE kit on this day. Again, if Year 11 pupils would like to support in this event, please do let us know.

### Seniors on trips and events

Pupils cannot use mobile phones on school trips or visits unless directed by the staff. It is useful to have a mobile phone at a fixture or visit if the pick-up time changes and the office has closed for the day. Please ensure that your child has enough data and charge to be able to make contact with you should there be an alteration to the time. Senior pupils are also responsible for carrying their medication on that trip. It is a parents responsibility to ensure the medication is on them before they leave for school and that it is in date and usable.

Please also make sure that if your child is at a fixture, you familiarise yourself with the collection times and location as it can be outside of office hours. Please make a note of the time and place when you receive the invite for the event.

### Reports next year

Senior Leaders across the Oak-Tree Group of Schools have met to discuss some improvements in end of year and mid-term reports. These will look different next year and I am sure you will agree, are simpler to read and understand than our previous systems. We have worked with a number of other schools in finding what works best for the pupils and parents at Braeside School. As reporting season opens next year, I will explain what the changes are and how this benefits your child.

## **Staffing**

We are very sad to announce that Mr Rob Gregory (Braeside Maintenance Team) will be retiring at the end of the term. Pupils will know that he lovingly tends to the garden, is in early making sure the site is safe and clean and shuttles pupils to and from their various activities. He retires to take on a renovation project and will be still running in the forest to keep fit. We welcome Mr East who has been part of the Oak Tree Maintenance team. Pupils will already be familiar with Mr East. Please do welcome him to the Braeside community when you see him.

Mrs Reales and Miss Gamble (the Oak Tree Group singing teachers) will be leaving us at the end of the term too. We would like to thank them for the opportunities in music.

Next year, the Kindergarten staff will remain the same (Miss Tucker, Mrs Patel and Mrs Fiori). The Reception class teacher (and Head of Early Years) will be Mrs Doss.

A reminder that the Year 1 teacher will be Mrs Thompson (as it currently is). Year 2 will be taught by Mrs Barr. Year 3 will be taught by Miss Ali. The Year 6 teacher for next year will be Mrs Hearn. Year 5 will have Mrs Adams. Mrs Adams has worked at local schools and has previously worked with me and Mrs Rodway. She will be teaching Year 5 (whilst Mrs Gadd is still on Maternity Leave) and will be teaching French throughout the school and some GCSE Spanish. Mrs Adams is experienced in both junior and secondary school settings and we welcome her to Braeside in September.

The form tutors for the following year groups will be:

Year 7 – Miss Barret and Miss Jemal

Year 8 – Mrs Rodway and Mr Reich-Storer

Year 9 – Mrs Alahi and Mrs Wroblewski

Year 10 – Miss Coleman and Mrs Flagg

Year 11 – Mr Bibby and Mr Masood

The form tutors should always be your first point of contact. Please email or call them in the first instance as they are usually able to resolve your query effectively.

## **Well-being over the summer**

Pupils have a long period of time off over the summer. I am sure it will be filled with fun and busy activities as well as time to relax. However, the thought of returning to school and a routine can be daunting for some pupils. Please do speak to a member of staff if your child is experiencing anxieties about coming back to school. As much as pupils enjoy school, they may still feel a little anxious about coming back. This is completely normal for a child.

## **Oak-Tree Fireworks**

The Oak-Tree Firework Display is booked for Sunday 5 November 2023, which is the final day before we return to school from the October half term. Please do put the date in your diaries and join us for this enjoyable family event. Mr Hagger will be writing to parents in September with further details.

## **Complaints**

As you are aware, we have an open door policy throughout the school and we make every effort to respond quickly to any queries or concerns you may have. I thought you might like to know that over the course of the last academic year we had one formal complaint that was resolved quickly and to the satisfaction of all parties. Any informal concerns were also resolved quickly.

### Dates for the Diary

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

<b>Tue 4 July</b>	Vaccination Catch Up
<b>Wed 5 July</b>	Bikeability Level 3
<b>Fri 7 July</b>	Early Years Celebration and Speech Day
<b>Mon 10 July</b>	Sports Day
<b>Tue 11 July</b>	CricketFest
	Vaccination catch up session
<b>Wed 12 July</b>	End of Summer Term
	<b>Break up 12pm</b>
<b>Wed 6 September</b>	First day of term
<b>Fri 8 September</b>	Year 7 Ninja Warriors
<b>Tue 12 September</b>	Year 10 GCSE Information Meeting
	Individual Photos
<b>Wed 13 September</b>	Year 1-6 Curriculum Meeting
<b>Thu 14 September</b>	RWI info for Parents
	Year 3 Summit Rock Camp at Oaklands School

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

I hope you all have a lovely summer holiday and I look forward to welcoming you back in September for another busy and exciting year.

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.

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