



# 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)

1 March 2024

Dear Parents

### Re: March 2024 Headmistress's Letter

I do hope you had a restful break with your families over February half term. It is hard to believe that we are already more than half the way through the school year. We have had 3 trips already this half-term and Year 11 are straight into their GCSE Mock Exams.

#### Staff reminders

Sadly, Ms Corderey, who was join us as the English Coordinator in the seniors, is now not able to join us owing to a family emergency which occurred over half-term. We have managed to secure an excellent English teacher for the seniors, Mr Jack Cox, who has been working in East London for the last six years. He was very excited to have joined us on Monday and has been teaching this week.

#### GCSE mock exam reflections

Year 11 are currently completing their last round of mock exams before the public exams in May 2024. It is important that pupils are aware of their current 'working at' grade and what they must focus their revision on over the Spring Break. Revision must include the areas for improvement and must include retrieval practice for the most effective outcomes in the summer. It is important that you attend Parents Evening on Tuesday 26 March to get direct feedback from your child's teachers on their exam performance. This date has been set on the calendar since the start of the academic year.

#### GCSE Options

Year 9 have completed a 'straw poll' of their option choices. This helps the Senior Leadership Team to identify the 'best fit' of choices for all students. You will shortly have access to the GCSE Options video for you to watch at home as a family. You will then make appointments with teachers of the subjects that your child intends to take (as well as the core subjects). It is important that your child makes their firm selections of GCSE Options after the Parents Evening so that we can start to build the timetable for next academic year around the choices.

#### Water bottles

We will no longer be selling water for pupils to buy in plastic bottles. This is not environmentally sustainable and brings us in line with the other Oak-Tree Schools. All students are expected to bring a reusable water bottle to school every day. There is opportunity to fill water bottles up from the drinking water fountains at break and lunchtime. Water is also available in jugs at lunchtime. We are installing an additional drinking water fountain this month.

#### Parking at the front of school

Please do not park in spaces allocated for staff when you are dropping your child at Breakfast Club in the morning. Please also turn off your engines when dropping off your child or picking them up. Our students have commented that engine exhausts can be smelt and are also concerned about the impact that 'idling' has on the environment.

### Parents' Evening and Options Evening

Parents' Evening and meeting dates are published on the school website calendar for all years. Please make a note of them. We cannot hold another Parents Evening if you are unable to attend these pre-scheduled meetings. Junior pupils have their Parents Evening on Tuesday 26 March with the class teacher in the classroom, and Year 11 has their Mock Feedback Evening in the hall on the same evening. If you are a Junior parent, please do not arrive too early to your appointment as we have only limited space for parents to wait. Please be punctual to appointments so that other families are not impacted.

### Trips and visits

Year 7 are learning about the Water Cycle in Geography and are visiting the SES Water Zone and reservoir **on 5 March**. We will be exploring how water is cleaned and recycled in London. On **Wednesday 6 March** some of our Junior pupils will be taking part in the annual Oak-Tree Spelling Bee at Coopersale Hall School.

We will be celebrating World Book Day again this year and have had some very helpful input from our pupils about what they would like to see from the day. Senior pupils will also be joining in this year (at their request). Both Junior and Seniors will have literacy-based activities throughout the day. This will be on Thursday 7 March.

We have a variety of sporting events over the coming weeks. We have an U11 football match with a local school on **1 March**, a year 5 and 6 netball match at Chigwell School and the Year 1 and 2 athletics competition in the West Essex Quadrant both on **Friday 8 March**.

Some of our Senior pupils will be travelling to Lambourne End Outdoor Centre on **9 and 10 March** to prepare for their forthcoming Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition. I am incredibly grateful to all the staff who will be there to support them over the weekend. We are hoping that the weather is kind to them!

### Careers Week

Following our successful careers event last year, we will be holding this again in March. It was mainly a success owing to the number of parents and relatives that came in to offer their career advice to our pupils across the school. We are delighted that one of our past students will be visiting the school to talk about her work in criminal psychology to our pupils. Mrs Aksoy and Mr Masood will be contacting our parents that have volunteered to come in to school to confirm a time slot with you. Once again, I am very grateful for your help.

### Dates for the Diary

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

Fri 1 March	Open Day U11 5 a side football @ Woodford Green Prep.
Tues 5 March	Year 7 trip to SES Water
Wed 6 March	Oak Tree Group Spelling Bee @ CHS
Thurs 7 March	Juniors – World Book Day Seniors – PJ / Onesie Day
Fri 8 March	International Women's Day @ Chigwell School Year 5 & 6 Netball Vs Chigwell Year 1 & 2 West Essex Athletics
Sat 9 March– Sun 10 March	Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Weekend
Mon 11 March	Careers Week Junior Assessment Week Year 7 & 8 WESSA Football
Tue 12 March	Year 9 Parents & Options Evening Senior LAMDA Examinations Year 6 Science Trip to Bancroft School
Wed 13 March	13+ Entrance Examination U9-U11 Cross Country Relay @ CHS

Thur 14 March	Year 8 & 9 WESSA Netball Tournament @ Debden Park
Fri 15 March	Senior LAMDA Examinations
Mon 18 March	Red Nose Day
	Science Week
	Senior Assessment Week
Tues 19 March	Junior Workshop – Planetarium
Wed 20 March	Junior LAMDA Examinations
	Year 8 RS Trip
Thur 21 March	U10 & U11 5 a side Football @ Shooters
	Junior Peripatetic Concert
Fri 22 March	Junior Workshop – Animals
Mon 25 March	Year 2 & 5 Trip to The National Portrait Gallery
	KG & Reception Trip to The Reptile Centre
Tue 26 March	Junior Parents Evening
	Year 11 Parents Evening - Mocks Feedback
	All School Easter Egg Hunt
	Year 6 & 7 Workshop – Neurodiversity
Wed 27 March	<b>12pm End of Spring Term</b>
Thur 18 April	<b>First Day of Summer Term</b>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself or Miss Wood. We are all looking forward to welcoming your children back into school tomorrow.

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

