



Braeside School

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HEADMISTRESS

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1 July 2024

Dear Parents

Re: July 2024 Headmistress's Letter

I cannot quite believe this is the final letter of the year. Thank you so much for attending events to support your children. It has been lovely to see you at the Aladdin performance and also at Sports Day. It has also been great to see parents supporting the weekly sporting fixtures. We appreciate all of your support.

Staff news

Mrs Alahi will be leaving this year after 8 years as Head of Maths. Mrs Alahi has been a valued member of staff and a wonderful form tutor over the years. She has also pioneered the Oak Tree Challenge Award at Braeside as well as supported students through GCSE Maths, Statistics and Further Maths and UK Maths Challenge. Mrs Alahi is leaving teaching (for now) and is looking forward to travelling in the Autumn Term. We wish her the very best of luck.

Mrs Gadd is also leaving us to take up a part-time position as Head of Science at Oaklands School. We will miss her very much as she has been a key part of the Junior teaching team for 8 years having responsibility for Humanities. Mrs Gadd also introduced Philosophy for the Juniors which is now firmly part of the curriculum.

I am delighted that Mrs Chalmers will be the new full time Head of Maths in the Seniors. Mrs Chalmers is currently at a school near Poplar and has taught in local schools before this. She has already visited the school to meet the teachers and pupils.

We also welcome a new Head of English in September. Mrs Eaglestone is currently Head of English at a large school in Harlow and has been there for the past 18 years. Mrs Eaglestone has also visited school to meet pupils and staff for an effective handover of work.

Teachers and form tutors

I usually let parents know at this point about the class teachers and form tutors next academic year. From September, the team will be as follows:

- Lower Kindergarten – Mrs Patel
- Upper Kindergarten – Miss Tucker
- Reception – Mrs Doss
- Year 1 – Mrs Thompson
- Year 2 – Mrs Barr
- Year 3 – Miss Ali
- Year 4 – Mrs Adams
- Year 6 – Miss Hearn
- Year 7 Form Tutors – Miss Barrett and Ms Egharevba
- Year 8 Form Tutors – Miss Jemal and Mrs Eaglestone
- Year 9 Form Tutors – Mrs Rodway and Mrs Razzak
- Year 10 Form Tutors – Mrs Wroblewski and Mrs Chalmers
- Year 11 Form Tutors – Mr Masood and Miss Coleman

End of Year exams and feedback

All pupils in the school have now had their End of Year Exams. Pupils in Year 7-10 have received their marks and have been given verbal feedback from their teachers. Pupils are responsible for completing an Exam Feedback sheet for all exams taken. This is a record of the aspects of the exam that went well and the areas for improvement. Please ask your child to show you these feedback sheets and exams so that you can support them in identifying their areas of strength and to help focus their revision in the future. In some cases, teachers will ask that pupils re-model questions after further verbal feedback from staff. It is imperative that they do this before they can move on to the next topic in class teaching time.

In the Juniors, feedback from the exams focusses on the 'next steps'. These are targets agreed by pupils and teachers. These next steps, along with any other data, is passed on to the teacher who your child will have in September. This robust and effective handover between teachers ensures that important information is passed on.

If your daughter is in Year 10, please be aware that some Sixth Forms ask for a copy of their End of Year report with the Year 10 exams results on. I did state this in the End of Year Exam letter and this message has been conveyed by teachers to the pupils.

Uniform reminders

Please use the summer break to purchase new items of uniform ready for September. At this time of the year, shorts have become shorter and trousers and skirts can look ill-fitting. Pupils must be in FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM for formal events such as Speech Day. This includes a blazer, shirt, skirt / summer dress, shorts (for boys) or trousers. These must be washed and dried so that children are tidy and clean for school.

Senior pupils are now permitted to wear short, white ankle socks that are plain (no branding). However, they will revert to black tights in the Autumn Term. Please also note that we have never had white tights or navy tights or socks as part of the Braeside Uniform.

Pupils in Year 5 and above are permitted to wear one plain stud in each lobe. Please ensure any new ear piercings are done at the start of the long holiday so that your child complies with the uniform requirements for earrings.

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. Pull forward adjacent to the mini bus space to allow staff to access the car park so that they can start their day promptly. Please also turn off your engines when dropping off your child or picking them up.

Please pull as far forward as you can (before the exit gate) when dropping your child off, it allows more cars to access the front entrance. Please also be mindful when picking up that you are making a swift exit so that parents in cars are not waiting to access the drive by blocking the road.

I have also had complaints from local residents again this term about parents parking on the double yellow lines in Ardmore Lane. Yellow lines are there to protect pedestrians and to keep traffic moving. Please adhere to these signs to keep children safe at drop-off and pick-up. Please also do not mount the kerb as residents, staff and pupils are walking on the pavement and this poses a safety risk.

Reports

Please use your portal log in to access your child's report at the end of the school year. If you have any queries about grades or standardised scores, please ensure that you contact the teacher directly for the most effective response. It is helpful to have your log in details to hand. If you do not have these, please call the office before 5 July.

Junior reports will report on a standardised score. The report that your child will receive has the interpretation of these scores according to the Oak-Tree Group of Schools measures. A Standard Age Score converts a pupil's raw score to a standardised score which takes into account the pupil's age in years and months and gives an indication of how the pupil is performing relative to a national sample of pupils of the same age.

End of term events

There are several activities, events and visits coming up between now and the end of term. Please do read the communications carefully so that your child is adequately prepared for trips including a re-fillable bottle of water (especially now that the weather is warming up) and a sun hat. Pupils must come to school with sun protection cream on. A list of the activities and trips can be found at the end of this letter.

Speech Day and the Early Years Celebration will be on Friday 5 July and pupils have already been rehearsing for this event. Full school uniform (not PE) must be worn. Please ensure that your child's uniform is clean and presentable for this event. Please ensure that they have clean shoes and that hair accessories are appropriate for a formal event. We will not be serving refreshments after this event. There will be photos taken by the usual company 'DE Photos' who will have a display board should you wish to purchase these.

Our annual Cricket Fest has evolved to Ball Fest on 9 July (weather permitting). Pupils **MUST** come to school in PE kit on this day. The whole school will be taking part in the House Cricket competition in the morning. After lunch, there will be a house rotation of different ball sports.

Well-being over the summer

As parents and carers, there are ways we can support our children to give them the best chance to stay mentally healthy. Encouraging and guiding a child to think about their own mental health and wellbeing are vital skills you can teach them from a young age. The Summer Break is a perfect time to enjoy the outdoors, go on a holiday or break and spend time with family and friends. However, this can make the return to school tricky for some students. Please do speak to your child's form tutor or class teacher if your child is finding the return to school challenging after the holiday.

Dates for the Diary

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

Monday	01 Jul	By invite	Wimbledon
Tuesday	02 Jul	Years 3-10	Chessington World of Adventures
Friday	05 Jul	Whole School	Speech Day
Monday	08 Jul	KG & Rec	Strawberry Picking
Tuesday	09 Jul	Whole School	Summer Sports Fest
Wednesday	10 Jul	Last day of Summer Term: Finish at 12pm	
Wednesday	04 Sep	First day of Autumn Term	

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself or Miss Wood. I wish you a restful break and I hope to see you in person in our end of term events.

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

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