



Braeside School

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HEADMISTRESS

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3 September 2024

Dear Parents

Re: **September 2024 Headmistress's Letter**

We are very much looking forward to welcoming pupils tomorrow, Wednesday 4 September. We hope you have had a restful break and had time to get prepared for the term ahead. This letter is to remind parents and pupils about the activities and information that is needed for a successful start to the term.

Teachers and Form Tutors

Here is a reminder about class and form teachers this year:

- 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

When there is something you would like to discuss about your child, please contact the class teacher or your child's form tutor in the first instance. All teachers' email addresses are available on the school website under the 'Staff List'. Senior form tutors will email parents this week to provide a point of contact and to introduce themselves.

MIDYIS and YELLIS data

Pupils in Year 7 will have an online cognitive ability test in September. Pupils cannot revise for these tests and they are completed on a school computer in school time. We use a company called CEM who process the data from a standardised test. The test results are then sent to school for analysis. Teaching staff have access to the data so that they are able to plan appropriately for pupils' individual needs. We do not share this information with pupils. The test is called MIDYIS.

Pupils in Year 10 will also sit an online cognitive test in school time. This is referred to as YELLIS data. Again, staff will use this data to plan appropriately for your child over the course of the GCSEs. I will be sharing this data with your child so that they are aware of what GCSE grades they should aim for at the end of Year 11. We also ask pupils to set aspirational targets for themselves. These targets will be recorded on the GCSE Target Stickers on the front of their workbooks. Please discuss this data with your child when they receive them. If you have any further questions about the data or about the tests themselves, please contact Miss Wood.

Homework, assessment and feedback

Homework for Junior pupils will, as always, be set on Seesaw. Please do check this platform regularly to best support your child's learning journey. Please contact your child's class teacher if you have misplaced the password or username for this application as soon as possible. This avoids any gaps in learning at the start of the term.

In the Juniors, feedback from homework and classwork focusses on the 'next steps'. These are targets agreed by pupils and teachers. These next steps (and any other data) is discussed in the classroom with pupils and teachers so that your child is clear about what they should do next time to improve their work.

Pupils in the seniors use a platform called Show My Homework. If your daughter is in Year 7, they will receive their log in details (as well as your parental log in details) this week. Please ask your child to log in with you so that you are familiar with the platform. Please do regularly check Show My Homework so that you can support your child with homework and revision at home.

Pupils in the seniors will have half termly assessments with a revision list on Show My Homework. Pupils will then receive class and individual feedback on these assessments and they will be fixed into their books along with a personal feedback sheet. It is important for parents to check their child's books regularly for further insight into the assessments and next steps for the future.

If your child in in Year 7-11, they will have a homework timetable that you can refer to. This will be published on the portal. Families have found this useful in planning outside activities around homework commitments. If your daughter is in Year 11, you will see a GCSE Booster timetable added to the portal. These booster sessions start on Monday 9 September and all pupils in Year 11 are encouraged to attend.

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 their Year 10 exams results on. GCSE Mock exams will be after the October half term and more details will follow.

Lockers and storage

Junior pupils will have a peg with their name on to store their bag, coat and other bags (such as wellies). They use the peg to hang up their coat in bag first thing in the morning.

Pupils in the seniors will have a locker allocated on the first day of the term. They can bring in a combination lock to use for the year. We advise a combination lock rather than a lock with a key. Senior pupils cannot walk around the school with a bag. They must store their bag and equipment in the locker and take out the equipment that they need over the course of the day.

Uniform reminders

Hopefully you have used the Summer Break to purchase new items of uniform ready for the start of the new academic year. Junior pupils (excluding Year 6) have the option to wear the Summer or Winter uniform this term. Please note that we have never included white tights as part of the uniform. Do not send your child in to school with white tights.

Senior pupils should be wearing 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. Socks are not permitted until the Summer Term when we inform you that the weather has changed.

Pupils in Year 5 and above are permitted to wear one plain stud in each lobe. Please leave any new ear piercings for a long holiday so that your child complies with the uniform requirements for earrings. Pupils must not have multiple piercings.

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.

When you use the drive, pull as far forward as you can (before the exit gate) when dropping off your child, to allow 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 blocking the road while waiting to access the drive. Please turn off your engines when dropping off your child or picking them up.

In roads around the school 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.

PE this term

Pupils across the school will still come to school in their PE kit on the days when they have PE.

Swimming will be starting on Wednesday 11 September for pupils in Year 3 to Year 6. Please ensure that your child has the uniform swimsuit and regulation cap ready for this part of the curriculum.

Year 1 and 2 pupils will be starting football and must have shin pads as part of the PE uniform.

Year 10 and 11 will have PE on Friday afternoon where will be going off site (as usual) to the Peter May Sports Centre in Highams Park.

Events this term

There are several activities, events and visits coming up between now and the end of September. Please do read the communications carefully so that your child is adequately prepared for trips including a re-fillable bottle of water and a waterproof coat. A list of the activities and trips can be also found at the end of this letter.

Year 11 have their annual team building activity on Friday 6 September during their core PE time at a trampoline park. Please ensure that your daughter has a re-fillable water bottle for this event. There is also a teambuilding event for Year 7 to the Nuclear High Ropes on Monday 16 September and a communication has already been sent regarding equipment and clothing.

Pupils have individual class photos on 10 September and the whole school photo on 11 September. All students should be in full school uniform for these photos (not PE kit).

Pupils who are attending the Battlefields residential trip to Belgium on 26-27 September are invited to a short briefing (with parents) at 4pm on Tuesday 10 September in the hall. Please sign in at reception to enter the school building.

Pupils in Year 3 will be attending the Oak Tree Group Camp on 12-13 September. Pupils will be taken to Oaklands School and returned to Braeside on Friday 13 September. Please speak to Miss Wood directly if you have any questions about the camp.

There are some information evenings for parents this term. If your daughter is in Year 10, you are invited to an 'expectations' evening on Tuesday 17 September to meet with teachers from Science, Maths and English. The aim of the evening is to discuss the requirements and expectations on pupils in GCSE. If your daughter is in Year 11, you are invited to a meeting about the application process on Tuesday 24 September. Mrs Eaglestone and Mrs Chalmers will also introduce themselves at this event. Year 7 parents are invited into school on the morning of 25 September for a short meeting about homework and expectations.

We are delighted to invite junior parents in to school on Wednesday 18 September for our annual curriculum information meeting where you can explore what learning has been planned for your child. If your child is in Early Years (including Reception), you are invited to a Phonics meeting on 19 September.

Local fixtures will be announced via emailed letter if your child has been invited to represent the school. Please confirm your child's attendance as soon as you receive notification so that we know what transport to arrange.

Wellbeing as we return to school

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. Sometimes the return to school can be 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:

Wednesday	04 Sep	Start of Autumn Term
Friday	06 Sep	Year 11 Jump Trampoline
Tuesday	10 Sep	Individual Photos
Wednesday	11 Sep	Whole School Photo
Thurs/Fri	12/13 Sep	Year 3 Oak Tree Camp
Monday	16 Sep	Year 7 High Ropes
Monday	16 Sep	Year 3 & 4 Netball Vs Normanhurst School
Tuesday	17 Sep	Year 10 GCSE Parents Information Meeting
Tuesday	17 Sep	Years 1 – 6 Parents Curriculum Information Meeting
Thursday	19 Sep	EY RWI Parents Information Meeting
Friday	20 Sep	Jeans for Genes Day
Friday	20 Sep	Year 3 & 4 WESSP Tag Rugby
Tuesday	24 Sep	Year 11 Parents 6 th Form Meeting
Wednesday	25 Sep	Year 7 Expectations Meeting
Wednesday	25 Sep	Year 3 & 4 Oaktree Group Netball @ Oaklands
Thursday	26 Sep	Battlefields Residential Trip
Friday	27 Sep	Year 11 Stride Workshop
Friday	27 Sep	Year 1 & 2 WESSP Football
Tuesday	01 Oct	Open Day
Wednesday	02 Oct	Year 9 CSI Workshop
Wednesday	02 Oct	U16 ISA London North Netball
Thursday	03 Oct	Year 9 & 10 Stride Workshop
Thursday	03 Oct	Mosaic Workshop

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself or Miss Wood. I look forward to seeing you as the term begins.

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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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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