



# Braeside School

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## HEADMISTRESS

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

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04 November 2024

Dear Parents

### Re: **November 2024 Headmistress's Letter**

We certainly have had a busy half term with a residential trip to Belgium, several local and national sporting events and our Harvest Festival celebration. I am very grateful for your support and attendance at these school wide events and for all your efforts in collecting food donations for the Epping Forest Foodbank in Loughton.

#### **Year 11 Mock Exams and feedback**

Year 11 students have been revising for their mock exams which start on Monday 4 November. Please speak to your child about moving around the school quietly and respecting signs that indicate an exam is in progress. If your daughter is in Year 11, they should be prepared with an exam pencil case (which is transparent) and a clear plastic bottle for drinks. If you know your child is going to be off school during the exams, please let us know in advance of the exams so that we can put in alternative arrangements.

Year 11 pupils will be receiving feedback after the mock exams in their lessons. This is a chance to explore what they need to improve on and it is important they act upon the feedback in a timely manner. Year 11 parents should attend the mock feedback evening on Tuesday 3 December to best support their continuing GCSE journey.

Pupils in Year 7-10 will be receiving feedback from their half termly assessments after the half term break. It is very important that you engage with your child about their attainment and areas to work on for the future. Please look through their books to see their assessments on a regular basis.

#### **Reports**

Pupils in Year 1-11 will receive a report published to the portal at the end of the term. Please ensure you have your log in details so that you are able to access this. If you have any questions about the reports once they have been published, please email the teacher directly for the most effective response. The report reflects your child's current 'working at' grade or level and targets for improvement. It is important that you discuss your child's report with them so that they are clear about their personal targets and how to achieve them.

#### **Uniform reminders**

We have had to purchase spare goggles and hats to accommodate pupils who have forgotten equipment on Wednesday for swimming. Please ensure that your child is adequately prepared for the day as children can become distressed when they do not have the correct equipment such as a towel or a swimming hat. When children are distressed about not being prepared for school or forgetting something, it can impact on their day at school.

Pupils must wear correct PE kit on the days that they have PE. Some pupils may be invited to additional sporting events where they are required to wear PE more than twice in the week. Your child must have enough clean PE kit to cover these days as we will be applying a sanction for non-PE uniform items such as black or navy leggings that are not part of the uniform.

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 earring 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. If your child is in Kindergarten to Year 4, they are not permitted to wear earrings to school. Please ensure that you check your child's uniform before they leave for school so that jewellery that is not permitted is left at home.

Pupils who normally wear earrings should remove these on days that they have PE. We cannot provide tape to cover them over. Please ensure that your child is able to remove their earrings independently. If they cannot remove them, please ensure that they are not worn to school when they have PE.

### **Parking around the school**

Now that the weather is colder and the days are shorter, many parents prefer to drop their child to school and pick them up. Please be mindful of the parking restrictions on Ardmore Lane as they are there to protect pedestrians and to ensure the safe flow of traffic. Please be courteous when using this road as I have received complaints from local residents that parents are parking on double yellow lines and are blocking driveways.

### **Assembly themes this term**

We have assembly twice a week. Senior assembly is on Monday morning, Junior assembly is on Thursday morning and the Whole School Assembly (Achievement Assembly) is on Friday morning. I am delighted that Mr Shields (our resident chef) will be leading an assembly connected to Remembrance about rationing during times of war. This is an interesting and interactive assembly for both Junior and Senior pupils.

GCSE Religious Studies pupils will be leading assemblies on Festival of Lights that covers many of the religions represented at Braeside School. The Charity Committee will be introducing their next venture which will be the Christmas collection for the foodbank.

### **Charity collections for the festive period**

The Charity Committee from Year 3 to 9 recently visited the Epping Forest Foodbank to find out about the work they do and to volunteer to arrange and date foodstuffs for families in need. They decided that they would organise a community venture to collect donations from Braeside families to support local families in need ahead of the festive period. They have sent you a letter outlining their cause and collection information. Please do support our children to help our community.

### **Events this term**

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

A huge thank you to all of the pupils that helped out at the Oak-Tree Fireworks this year. I am also grateful to the parents that offered to run a staff and for helping to organise such a successful event.

Pupils in Year 1 will be visiting the Museum of the Home on Thursday 7 November to look at the development of items used in the everyday from design to engineering. Please read communications about this trip so that you are aware of the essential uniform items.

Some of our aspiring netballers have been invited to a residential trip organised through PGL from 8 November. They will be playing in a 3 day tournament and we wish them the very best of luck in their endeavours.

Year 7 will be visiting the Science Museum on 13 November. Please ensure that your daughter has the means to travel with a ZIP card and has a waterproof coat. They must also have a bag to carry their lunch and water bottle in.

The annual Oak Tree Group Maths Challenge will be held at Braeside again this year on 20 November. Children will be selected to represent their year group in the cross-group competition. You will be notified if your child has been selected to compete.

Year 8 have been invited to an exclusive film screening for Science through the organisation Into Film at the end of November. This is a science trip and the pupils will be discovering more about space and floating matter.

We are delighted that our past pupils who are now in Year 12 at their chosen places of study will be returning for a morning on 22 November. They will collect their official certificates and stay for tea and cake to celebrate their results. Current Year 11 are welcome to chat to them about Sixth Form life to help them prepare for their next steps.

There are several sporting fixtures this half term including a swimming gala for pupils in Year 4 to 6 at a local school. There a range of netball fixtures for seniors and also the WESSP tag rugby tournament for Year 5 and 6 pupils.

### **Wellbeing as we head towards a busy period of time**

This is a very busy term with events and trips regarding the festive period. Children thrive on consistent routines at home and at school and the festive period can be challenging for some children. It is important for children to have 'down-time' and play time at home as well as attending events and doing homework. A balance of after school activities and free time is essential for children's wellbeing. If you would like to discuss your child's wellbeing, please do contact Miss Barrett or Mrs Spencer at school.

### **Dates for the Diary**

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

- Monday 04 Nov Return to School
- Monday 04 Nov Year 11 Mocks
- Thursday 07 Nov Year 1 Trip to The Museum of the Home
- Friday 08 Nov PGL Weekend
- Friday 08 Nov Year 11 Workshop – People Pleasing
- Monday 11 Nov Year 11 Mocks
- Monday 11 Nov Year 4 Swimming Gala @ Chigwell School
- Wednesday 13 Nov Year 7 Trip to Science Museum
- Thursday 14 Nov Year 3 & 4 Natural History Museum
- Thursday 14 Nov U13 & U16 Netball @ Debden Park
- Friday 15 Nov Art Mock
- Monday 18 Nov Art Mock
- Monday 18 Nov Year 5 & 6 Swimming Gala @ Chigwell
- Tuesday 19 Nov Year 7 Parents Evening
- Tuesday 19 Nov Flu vaccinations
- Wednesday 20 Nov Essex Fire & Rescue Workshop
- Wednesday 20 Nov OTG Maths Challenge
- Thursday 21 Nov Year 8 Asteroid Film screening
- Friday 22 Nov Past Year 11 Leaver's Certificate
- Tuesday 26 Nov U11 OTG Sports Hall Athletics
- Wednesday 27 Nov Drop in morning
- Friday 29 Nov Year 11 Wellbeing Brunch
- Friday 29 Nov Year 5 & 6 WESSP Tag Rugby
- Monday 02 Dec KG & Rec Trip to Spring Time Nursery
- Tuesday 03 Dec Year 11 Parents Evening

As ever, please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself or Miss Wood if you have any questions or would like to discuss anything about your child's education.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely



Chloe Moon  
Headmistress



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