



January 2020

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Headmistress's Message

The pupils have had such a busy and active start to the term! There have been sports fixtures both within the Oak Tree Group and through external fixtures that girls have relished taking part in and it has been wonderful to see the team spirit shown by all the pupils.

Thank you for coming to the Oak Tree Art Exhibition and the swimming gala. If you came, I am sure you saw the wonderful art work that was on display. We had many comments from the local community too. Your support in these events is always much appreciated.

Kind Regards

Chloe Moon

Kindergarten Celebrate Chinese New Year



Kindergarten really enjoyed learning about Chinese New Year. They listened to the story of why each year has a different animal and were interested to find the animal for the year they were born.

They found out how people celebrate with fireworks and parades and then made their own Chinese lanterns to take home.



NEWSLETTER

Year 10 Science

Year 10 are working hard in Science as usual. This term in Biology pupils have looked into the human nervous system. They are working through their required practicals and investigated the effects of distraction on pupils' reaction time. It was really very interesting to see how distraction (from a mobile phone) was enough to slow down reaction times.

They discussed how difficult it can be to collect valid data from human volunteers as we are all so different in what we have eaten, how much sleep we have had etc. It is difficult to control for these factors.

Pupils are now looking into the mechanism of the reflex arc and how reflex reactions work. Keep up the focused good work Year 10 and try to avoid the distractions!



Epping Forest Youth Council Elections

The Epping Forest Youth Council will be holding an election on Monday 16 March to elect representatives for the next two years. Di Butler (Youth Council Co-ordinator) and our current Youth Councillors, Sam and Simran, gave an assembly inviting pupils to stand for election to represent young people across the district on the council.



They shared their experiences so far such as, getting recognised by the Queen for their services to young people, attending a celebration at parliament, meeting MPs from across England and making changes in their community.

Braeside will be electing two councillors in the district election in March – good luck to those that are standing!



Musical Success

We are delighted that some of our pupils have passed their music exams this term. Well done to Maariya who passed her Grade 1 piano, Freya who passed with merit her Grade 1 piano and also to Alexandra who passed her singing exams (Grade 6) with a merit. The pupils have practised really hard to achieve these wonderful results!





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Social Networking



Website

Go to the School Calendar page for upcoming events and our News page for all the latest news and lots more photos.



App

Keep up to date with the latest news, calendar dates, and much more by downloading the new Braeside School App.



Instagram

Follow us on Instagram for regular photo updates! Search for [braesidesch](#) to find us and then click follow.



Twitter

Follow us [@BraesideSch](#) on Twitter to get the latest updates.



YouTube

Subscribe to our YouTube account to watch some of pupils in action in class, during performances, at sports day and more.



Facebook

Facebook is our newest form of Social Media. Like us on Facebook to get news, photos, events and updates posted straight to your newsfeed.

Our World Our Future Workshops



Pupils in Reception to Year 6 recently took part in a special day of workshops to explore the issues of climate change. The pupils all completed drama or dance related activities to highlight issues to do with global warming and the different things we can do to help our planet.

They learnt about a wide range of topics, from helping bees to renewable sources of energy and issues linked to pollution of the seas and deforestation. Everyone had lots of fun coming up with ideas for their group presentations and we had a brilliant afternoon session together, sharing all of our hard work.



Year 8 Play Hockey

This half term in PE Year 8 have been travelling off site to the Old Loughtonians Hockey Club to play hockey.

For many of them, hockey is a completely new sport and they have enjoyed learning the rules and the fundamentals of the game.

The pupils have enjoyed the luxury of training on astro turf and it has been excellent to see them working hard to learn new skills.



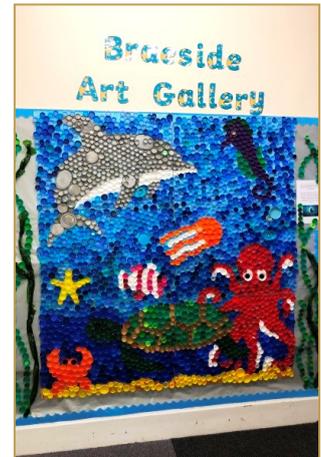
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A Recycled Bottle Top Masterpiece

As part of our House Challenge, Reception to Year 5 learnt about plastic pollution and watched the clip from the Blue Planet that changed the world's opinion about plastic overnight.

They first had an inter-house competition led by the Green Team to see who could collect the most single-use bottle tops.

Once enough bottles had been collected, in their House Challenge activities they made an ocean themed display in attempt to raise awareness of the 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle' message. There were many cross curricular links such as Art, English, Geography and PSHE, plus the finished work looked fantastic.



Year 10 Learning Performance Workshop

Braeside organised a workshop by the training company Learning Performance for Year 10 pupils at Braeside and Normanhurst. Laura (the trainer) was refreshing pupils' skills of revision and exposing them to different ideas for revision on different learning styles.

Ms Krist said that "Year 10 really engaged positively with the different ideas open to them" and Tamia said how interesting it was to think about her own learning style and what suited her. We hope it is useful to Year 10 in planning and doing their revision this term.



Young Writers Competition

We are very excited to announce that every story we entered into the Young Writers Writing Competition before Christmas has been chosen to be published!

"We had to write a 100 word mini saga about being hunted or hunting something or someone. It was a really good opportunity to write something creatively. To have our work published so family and friends can read it is something that we are really proud of"

Caaviya, Lola and Humaira - Year 7



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Year 9 Surrealism



Year 9 are currently working on a Surrealism project.

They have produced observational studies of everyday objects to develop into ideas, and then analysed the work of Salvador Dali.

Pupils then thought about the key concepts of Surrealism and how Dali gave meaning to his objects.

Year 9 have explored how the Surrealists based their paintings on fantasy, memories and dreams to produce work that is both thought provoking and personal. They have also worked on a larger scale as a challenge and explored acrylic paint.

Well done!



Year 8 Assembly on the Human Digestive System

Year 8 held an assembly on the human digestive system. They made an interactive scientific model using real food, and showed how the food gets broken down by the action of teeth, stomach muscles and enzymes.

Scissors were incisors to cut, beakers (molars) to mash and their hands (stomach muscle) to pummel the food. Their audience were highly engaged as Eva and Isabelle passed the 'food' through a section of school tights (small intestine) then used a tea towel to absorb the water (large intestine).



A Chance to Try New Activities



This term children can choose their own House activity on a Friday afternoon from a choice of meditation, chess, dance, life skills and design and technology.

The children have all really enjoyed this freedom, and loved the chance to take part in activities that they

haven't tried before. Meditation was particularly popular after a long week of school!



Oak-Tree Art Exhibition

Lopping Hall in Loughton was full to the brim with parents, staff and pupils on the afternoon of Saturday 18 January. Crowds gathered to admire an exhibition featuring outstanding artwork created by pupils from all four Oak-Tree Schools.

The artwork represented all age groups across Braeside, Coopersale Hall, Oaklands and Normanhurst and displayed work in a wide range of materials including textiles, painting, ceramics, collage and printmaking. The exhibition was very well attended and visitors to the exhibition were extremely impressed by the high standard and diverse range of artworks on display.

Well done everyone!



Year 11 PE



The Year 11 pupils have been enjoying a very exciting PE curriculum off site at the Peter May Sports Centre and at the Connaught Tennis and Squash Club.

They have had the opportunity to participate in group personal training sessions in the fitness suite, practice their tennis and squash skills, as well as

showing off their netball and badminton skills. We look forward to doing indoor athletics at Lee Valley Athletics Centre during the next half of term.



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Year 8 Coding

Pupils in Year 8 have been learning how to write computer programs through an interactive platform, RoboMind.

Pupils were tasked with writing coded commands to a virtual robot on the screen and guide him through a variety of challenges and mazes. For many, this was their first experience of computer programming, but they all did amazingly well to rise to the challenge!



Year 10 and 11 Visit The Globe Theatre

Years 10 and 11 went on a trip to The Globe Theatre where they had a tour of The Globe and completed a workshop on Romeo and Juliet, which they are studying for their GCSE. It was an action packed day where the pupils looked at how actors would feel when performing the play and how they could write about that for their exams.

"It was extremely informative and it helped me have a better understanding of the play which will help me write my essays more in depth." **Anoushka - Year 11**

"Acting scenes out helped us put it into an actor's perspective and view the play in a different way which helped with understanding and was fun." - **Amaarah and Ellie - Year 11**



Loughton Young Artists Exhibition and Winners



On Friday 17 January we were treated to an incredible display of artwork created by GCSE pupils from both Braeside and Normanhurst School. The work formed part of the Loughton Young Artists Exhibition held in Loughton Art Gallery, and there were some very impressive pieces in the collection. The gallery was packed from

the start of the preview evening until the end, and was filled with many proud parents, friends, pupils and teachers.

The artwork was created using a range of media including paint, pencil, sculpture, oil paints, 3D work and various other techniques. It was great to see the collective talent of our pupils and to hear them discussing their work with such passion.

It has recently been announced that we had two joint winners in the competition - Jessica and Megan, with their very unique and original GCSE Identity Pieces, and Katie achieved highly commended with her Identity Sculpture.



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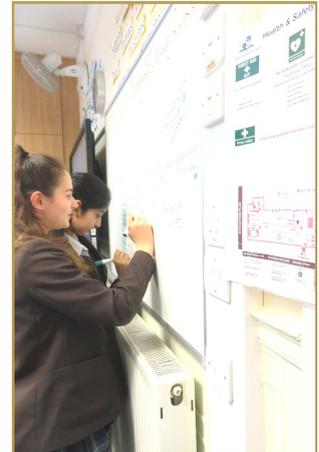
Year 10 GCSE English Poetry

Year 10 are currently studying the Power and Conflict cluster of poems for their GCSE. They planned and wrote an essay on *My Last Duchess* together as a class.

“We were able to express our ideas and views through interactive activities which I loved” – **Tamia**

“It helped us to understand how to plan and structure an essay” – **Ayla**

“Collectively writing an essay helped us to improve our essay writing skills and was great revision” - **Hagar**



Year 11 GCSE English Mind Maps

Year 11 have been doing some revision for their GCSEs and have created collaborative revision mind maps for ‘An Inspector Calls’. Pupils agreed it was a really good activity and helped them to perfect what they already knew and work out what they had to go over in further revision.



Forest School Higher Education and Careers Fair 2020



This term Year 10 had a serious look at their options for the future at Forest School Higher Education and Careers Fair 2020.

The event was a great success and our Year 10 pupils had a very uplifting experience. As a year group they all had a lively, confident and professional attitude. There were over 90 representatives from industry and higher education, including some of the best universities in the world, high-profile employers such as Barclays, professional institutions and a selection of Gap Year activity companies. All the exhibitors were well-versed in speaking to pupils and were happy to

be quizzed by our positive and proactive pupils.

Year 6 Music

Year 6 rose to the challenge this half term and learned Chinese, Japanese and Scottish Pentatonic Music, on Glockenspiels, as part of their Pentatonic Scale study in music. This was a very challenging task to master, but all pupils were determined to get it right, attempting it time and time again. They should be very proud of their progress.



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Year 8 Learn about Respiration Reactions

Year 8 have been learning about different respiration reactions. They have looked at anaerobic respiration in yeast cells, which is known as fermentation. The class carried out a joint experiment- each team measured the effect of a different glucose concentration on the rate of fermentation in yeast. As a class they found that as the glucose concentration increases, the rate of fermentation also increases.



Senior House Cross Country

Nightingale House was the winner of this years Senior House Cross Country event!

It was a heavily contested race in which every pupil from Year 6 to 11 competed in for their house. Eva, in Year 8, was the winner of the junior section and Jessica Adams comfortably won the senior section. A massive well done must go to Zarah in Year 6 who came second in the junior section and had the third fastest time in the whole of the competition!



All of the pupils should be proud of their efforts and it was great to see them all portraying excellent sportsmanship and helping each other to the finish line!

Creating Andy Goldsworthy Inspired Natural Artwork



Year 3 have been learning about the environmental artist Andy Goldsworthy, and recreated our Braeside School badge using natural resources.

During the lesson pupils discussed what each picture represents and the House it belongs to. Year 3 then went outside and gathered whatever they could find such as leaves, pine cones, grass cuttings and twigs.



They then used these resources to create their chosen image. The pupils

really enjoyed this lesson, remained engaged throughout and worked well as a team.





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FOBS Update

Hello everyone. We hope that you have settled in to the new term and have got used to all the routines that go with it.

Committee Members

Sadly this term we no longer have one of our Co Chairs, Ms Mead. We are grateful to the hard work that Ms Mead put in. This leaves us depleted with only two parent Committee Members. We would welcome new blood to all of our activities and meetings with a view to signing up new members to the Committee at our next AGM in November.



We plan to work more in collaboration with teachers and perhaps have smaller events that require less people power so that we can make the best of what we have.

Activities

We had our first Committee meeting of 2020 earlier in January and created a plan of events that we would like to support:

March: Easter egg hunt - April: Movies and Munch - July: Summer disco - July: Talent show and BBQ

We have also started planning for the Autumn Term so that we can get going straight away with activities for the girls.

Volunteers

We recently sent out a request for parents to sign up to our 'Volunteer Bank' so that we can target requests for help more specifically. We had 11 parents put their name down. Thank you to all of you who were able to do that. Please do get in touch if you would like to add your name.

Class Reps

We have recruited class reps for Years 5 and 7. We now have reps for all classes except Reception. We'd love to hear from any parent in Reception who would be interested in taking on this job. Most communication is done via WhatsApp and it is a useful way to pass information around.

Preloved Uniform

The parent survey showed us that there is an interest in having a preloved sale and/or donating our uniform to charity. We are hoping to find a parent that would be interested in taking this specific task on board. If you think that you could organise this event then please do get in touch.

Cake Sales

Everybody loves cakes. In the past we have had regular parent led cake sales. We would like to revive this tradition. The sales must be held after school with all ingredients listed and no nuts included. We are going to trial individual classes running a sale periodically. These will be organised by the class reps. All junior reps have signed up. Watch this space for dates.

Best wishes,

FOBS Committee