



December 2020

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Headmistress's Message

Dear parents,

As you can see by this newsletter, we have been incredibly busy in school in the lead up to the festive period!

Pupils have enjoyed a range of activities to enhance their learning and to build strong relationships at school. Year 7 enjoyed a wintry ramble in the forest adjacent to the school (and Year 8 are going as I write this). All pupils in the school had the chance to take part in our in-house competitions, ISA competitions and also the event organised by the local Parish Council.

We have tried to get together at the end of term in a safe and fun way (in Bubbles). Braeside pupils have really valued this time, as have the staff. I have received many cards and letters from our neighbours at 'Hawsted' thanking the pupils for singing to them this week. It is heart warming to hear that a small act of kindness from the students made people happy in these uncertain times.

I wish you a restful and happy Christmas and New Year!

Kind regards,

Chloe Moon

Headmistress

Lockdown Music Concert

During lockdown, some of our pupils performed a mini music concert from home. You can watch their amazing performances [HERE](#).



Year 6 Decorate the Christmas Tree



Year 6 House Captains were asked to decorate the Braeside Christmas tree this year, with a little artistic direction from the Kindergarten pupils. This year, the tree has been put in the garden so that all pupils can see it.

Year 6 did a great job and they loved decorating the Kindergarten fence.



Simran in Year 11 said: "It is so lovely that we are all on one site so we can share in these events."

Year 8 Debate



Year 8 took part in a debate in English where they argued for or against hunting. They had a lesson to prepare their arguments and research their points and the debate took place in the following lesson. All of the pupils were extremely passionate about their points whether they were for or against and showed a lot of enthusiasm and maturity on the subject. Both sides provided some thought provoking ideas as to whether hunting should be allowed to continue or not.

They debated really well, ensuring that they listened to each point and then coming up with an appropriate rebuttal. The class voted on who they thought were the best debaters; Isabelle won best debater for the 'against' team and Gracie won the best debater for the 'for' team. **Well done Year 8!**



Pupil Led Staff Training

Thank you to our ISA digital Art winner 2020, Rebecca, who kindly led staff training on using a new app called ProCreate. Rebecca started using it during lockdown to create digital art pieces and suggested that the Art department purchased the app for everyone to use. Rebecca showed staff how the stylus pen worked to get the best results. Once it is safe to do so, Rebecca will be training pupils on how to use the app too. **Thank you Rebecca – it was so kind of you!**



Festive Carol Service



The whole school assembled in their Bubbles on Monday 7 December for a festive carol service for our neighbours in 'Hawsted Flats'. Since we were unable to invite them to our Christmas Service, we took the music to them! Each bubble assembled on the London Corporation Field adjacent to the school to sing the songs that they had been working really hard on these past few weeks. The neighbours joined



us from the balconies and gardens in their apartments. It was also lovely that all of the Bubbles in the school could hear each other in a safe and fun way.

Year 3 and 4 Christmas Cards

Year 3 and 4 have really enjoyed making Christmas cards this half term. They have combined both 2D and 3D techniques and explored colour and weaving techniques to create our wonderful Christmas tree cards. **Well done, great work!**



Year 7 Polar Bears

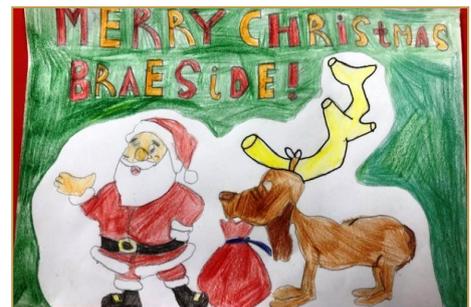
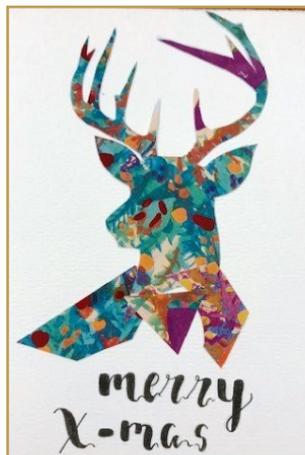
Year 7 have made these fantastic felt polar bears. They explored a range of stitches including blanket, back, running and French knots. These have been made as 'keep me' decorations and the pupils loved the idea of using these for many years to come. **Well done Year 7!**



NEWSLETTER

Christmas Card Competition

This year at Braeside we have run our annual Braeside Christmas Card Competition and all pupils, as usual, have put an enormous amount of effort into their cards which is so lovely to see. Pupils have explored a range of techniques including collage, painting and some really clever 'pop ups'. We have been blown away by the really high standard and professional quality. Even the teachers have got involved with the festive spirit to produce some imaginative cards. Well done all. Winners to be announced soon!



Year 7 Woodland Welly Ramble



Year 7 enjoyed a 'woodland welly ramble' in Epping Forest this term. Pupils have really missed out by not being able to go on trips because of the restrictions but are so lucky to have direct access to the beautiful forest adjacent to the school. It was a crisp, autumn morning that was perfect for a power walk.



They conquered a few hills, navigated through bramble and heard the birds tweeting in the trees above. It was uplifting in so many ways and it was lovely to see the pupils chatting and making close bonds.

Dylan and Sophie made 'Braeside' from all the foraged sticks and then Year 7 made a 'campfire' type arrangement. Chloe said "This is so fun, we get to be with our friends and walk in the forest. I loved it."

A 'Movie' Themed Lunch

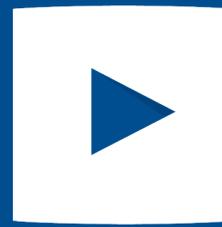
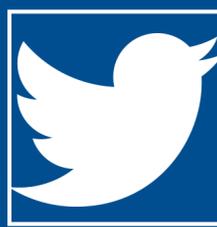


A big thank you to Chartwells for throwing a 'Movie themed lunch' for the pupils! The staff dressed up as characters from famous movies, soundtracks were playing in the background and pupils had a meal in a box, milkshake and popcorn to recreate a cinema meal.

Abi said "Thank you so much for organising this for us – it's a little bit of light in these strange times."



Getting Social



Year 6 Protests



Year 6 have been protesting against Victorian working conditions during the Industrial Revolution. They learned how terrible the conditions were including pay, hours, lack of education and poor health and safety standards. After creating protest posters, pupils marched on to the 'Houses of Parliament' (the front of the School) and asked the 'Prime Minister' (Mrs Copeman) to enforce new laws. They were successful and were told that many Acts were passed. **Great work Year 6!**



Great work Year 6!

Odd Socks Day

As part of anti-bullying week this year, all the pupils wore odd socks to school to celebrate that it's ok to be different, with even the teachers joining in! Everyone had lots of fun wearing their odd socks and were reminded that bullying is never okay and any incidents should always be reported to a trusted adult.



Year 7's Water Colour Artwork



Year 7 have worked really hard to produce these fantastic leaf studies using water colour. Pupils focused firstly on the shape of the leaves and then on blending and mixing techniques to create such life like images.



Great work Year 7!

Virtual Comic Drawing Workshop

Year 7, 8 and 9 participated in an online workshop led by French illustrator Claire Fauvel, author of the comic book 'La Guerre de Catherine' (Catherine's War), after the novel by Julia Billet. Pupils were introduced to the novel, based on a true story, relating the fate of Jewish children in Nazi occupied France. During the workshop, Claire Fauvel demonstrated how to create a comic strip from sketching, fine lining and colouring. Braeside pupils displayed outstanding behaviour and engagement and it was impressive to see their progress in the course of an hour!



"Learning how to draw different characters and frames of a comic was an amazing experience. Claire was such a lovely person and I appreciate the time she wanted to spend with us. I sure learnt a lot and hope to go further with comic drawing. Claire's such an artistic and kind person. I loved this workshop and hope to do it again soon!" – Freya, Year 8



"I really enjoyed the workshop and found it inspiring!" – Lola, Year 8

"The workshop was amazing! I learnt some new drawing skills and some new French words too!" – Humaira, Year 8

"We all appreciated spending time with Claire. It was a lovely experience." – Aina, Year 8

"The workshop was really interesting and made me truly consider a career in comic illustration." – Isabelle, Year 9

'Smiles Across Miles' Cake Sale

Well done to Bobbie who, along with her Year 6 classmates, organised a cake sale to raise money for 'Smiles Across Miles'. The charity enables children in Zambia to have Christmas dinner and a visit from Father Christmas. Thank you to rest of our pupils for buying lots of cakes!



Reception Bake Gingerbread Men

Reception enjoyed reading the story of 'The Gingerbread Man' and then making their own gingerbread men in class. They did a great job of rolling, cutting and decorating the dough, but the part they loved the most was eating their creations at snack time!



NEWSLETTER

Bubble Netball

“What a great day of ‘Bubble netball!’ All pupils from years 3-11 took part in a bubble netball competition recently. It was great to see excellent netball being played and the pupils supporting one another so brilliantly.

The winning team for the Year 3/4 competition was the Green Team, well done to Aliza, Darcy C, Juwairiyah, Nicole, Amber, Diya, Daisy and Brogan. Special mentions must go to Brogan for her excellent movement off of the ball, Poppy and Juwairiyah for their brilliant defending in the circle and Freya and Zara for their unbelievable shooting.

The winning team for the Year 5/6 competition was also the Green Team, well done to Louisiana, Amaya, Ava, Eliza, Alayna, Riana, Manha and Holly. Stand out performances from Ava, Nanaki and Maya for their shooting. Damiana and Georgia for their outstanding defending and Alayna for her fantastic interceptions.

In the Year 7/8/9 competition the Light Blue Team came out on top! Well done to Lily-Ann, Hannah, Maddie, Freya G, Elizabeth, Kristen, Sophie M and Scarlett! Also very well done to the Dark Green Team who were the runners up. Outstanding performances from Lily-Ann, Eva and Scarlett- your movement off of the ball and your interceptions were excellent. Top shooters were Humaira, Saara, Amaani, Kristen and Sophie M. Excellent defending in the circle by Evie and Anisa.

In the Year 10/11 competition, the Light Blue Team were also victorious! Well done to Zaneta, Samantha, Nell, Tamia, Emilie, Grace and Juliet. Special mentions to Zaneta for her excellent defending and Samantha for her outstanding shooting.

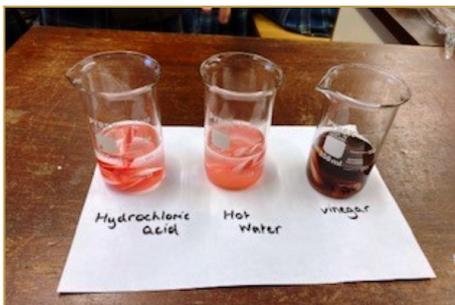
Well done to all of you involved, what an excellent day of netball!”

By Miss Barrett



Year 9 Candy Canes

The pupils of Year 9 planned their own Christmas themed investigation into the solubility of candy canes. They identified solvents to use as independent variables and made observations of the dependent variables (how much the colour and size of the canes changed). They identified important control variables to enable them to compare results. It turned out that the prediction that hydrochloric acid would be the best solvent was proved incorrect... Hot water won by some considerable amount!



Season's greetings from Team Science.

Year 6 Christmas Cards

Year 6 have worked extremely hard this year despite all the challenges to create these imaginative and colourful Christmas Card designs for the annual Parish Council Competition. They have explored a range of different painting and drawing skills, and experimented with collage and brush techniques. **Well done Year 6!**



Year 8 Woodland Welly Ramble

Year 8 enjoyed a Christmas Welly Ramble in the forest. They wrote Merry Christmas out of sticks, enjoyed climbing on fallen tree trunks and wading through the mud and puddles! They pupils had lots of fun exploring the area that we are so lucky to have next to the school.



Year 8 Explore Static Electricity

There were balloons aplenty in the science lab as Year 8 explored ideas of static electricity. Lots of new vocabulary was introduced including terms like electrons, charge, non-contact forces, insulators, friction and delocalised electrons, and they linked the ideas with real life experiences of static shock. The most common example amongst the pupils was jumping on trampolines in socks!



The lesson finished with the opportunity to convert the water balloons into Christmas baubles using yarn and PVA glue. It was as messy as it sounds but Year 8 had lots of fun!



Year 6 'Pop-Up' Cards

Year 6 have created these lovely 'pop' up penguin cards. They explored the box mechanism and used paint and collage techniques. They discussed how to create the illusion of depth and the pupils really enjoyed the process. The cards looked fantastic, well done!



Christmas Jumper Day

Braeside Charity Committee organised the annual Christmas Jumper Day to support Save The Children charity this year. Pupils enjoyed wearing Christmas themed outfits and jumpers for the day and Kathryn said: "I had a really Christmassy jumper that I wanted to show everyone. It was such a fun day!"



Christmas Dinner

Pupils enjoyed a tasty Christmas dinner within their bubbles on Wednesday 9 December. They had lots of fun pulling crackers with their friends and even had an extra treat of Nadia playing some festive tunes on the piano for them!



Christmas Performance

Our Christmas performances may be virtual this year but that didn't stop all of our pupil's from singing their hearts out! They sang with lots of enthusiasm and it really helped spread the Christmas spirit around Braeside. We can't wait to share the finished piece with everyone's families.



FOBS Bubble Disco

FOBS and staff at Braeside School organised a fundraising socially distanced Bubble Disco and Activity Evening for Kindergarten to Year 6 on Wednesday 9 December.

Crazy Legs DJ provided some safe and fun musical entertainment and games with his puppet, snow machine and competitions. Pupils were on rotation in bubbles to have hot chocolate under the Christmas lights and a Christmas craft making activity.

Layla in Year 6 said: "That was so much fun. Can we do again next year?" Yumnah in Year 5 said: "That was the best disco – I love dancing!"

It was a fantastic way for staff and pupils to have fun getting festive in a safe way!



NEWSLETTER

Panto

Mrs Moon organised an online viewing of a pantomime in school for all pupils. FOBS kindly paid for popcorn for all the pupils to eat whilst watching it in their class and form rooms. The pantomime starred famous actors and was made at The National Theatre in time for schools to watch it during the festive period. Year 11 served the popcorn to pupils and took their orders just like in a real theatre.



FOBS Update

Hello to you all,

We hope you are continuing to stay safe and are looking forward to the end of term and Christmas holidays.

FOBS held its annual AGM on Tuesday 24 November. It was held over Zoom and we were joined by some school staff and parents. We reflected on the year we have had which saw our activities drastically reduced. We discussed some tentative plans for next term. Fingers crossed.

We elected a new Chair of FOBS - Matt Hill - who is a Year 3 parent.

Our Treasurer remains James Pepe - a Year 5 parent. Our Secretary is Elin Walsh - a Year 10 parent. Our next committee meeting will be held via Zoom on Tuesday 26 January 2021 at 7pm. We will send out an invitation via email a week before. It would be lovely to have more people involved now that we don't have to leave the comfort of our own homes to join the meeting.



The Junior pupils had a fun day on Wednesday 9 December with 'Crazy Legs' who was originally booked for the summer disco. We are very pleased that the school staff have found a way to create a new event for the girls despite all the restrictions. All the girls will have the fun of watching a pantomime on Thursday 10 and FOBS have provided the refreshments.

We would like to have class representatives for all years. It helps us to have a direct route to you which will be useful in the future when we are able to be more involved with the school's social activities. If your daughter is in Kindergarten, Years 1, 2 or 7 then we'd be happy to hear from you.

We hope you all have a wonderful break. See you in the New Year.

Best wishes, FOBS Committee

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