

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE AT THE OAK-TREE SCHOOLS

Already widely-known for its outstanding academic education, the Oak-Tree Group of Schools has spent much time over recent months creating plans and starting work on some exciting building projects designed to enhance the facilities and develop the learning.



'Braeside School, Buckhurst Hill'

Having recently completed a £200,000 extension at Normanhurst in North Chingford, this year's principle building projects are taking place at Coopersale Hall in Epping and at the Group's newest addition, Braeside in Buckhurst Hill.

Although Braeside only joined the Oak-Tree Group eight months ago in September 2015, there is already an ambitious programme of building works planned to take place over the summer break for both the Junior and Senior sites. Matthew Hagger, Group Principal, tells us,

"At the Senior site we will gain planning consent to take off the roof of the large Science Block and replace it with an

upstairs Music and Drama Studio. This will provide a dedicated space for our performing arts, which is an area we will be developing. We are also aiming to create new school kitchens by reforming several ancillary ground floor areas,

and we are currently working with various design teams. This will mean we can bring a full range of lunches to the school, which will be very popular with the parents and girls!"

The Braeside Junior site will not be missing out as the summer holiday will be used to extend the School Hall to

provide serveries, additional storage and new toilets. This will allow the catering team to transport food from the new Senior kitchens through a dedicated access and into the serveries without disturbing lessons. In addition, the lower ground floor will be given a major makeover with a reorganisation of space to create improved classroom accommodation, a larger outside play area and a new access to the rear of the school building.

Elsewhere in the Oak-Tree Group there is also work at Coopersale Hall School in Epping. Matthew Hagger continues, "We started a kitchen extension over the Easter break for completion at the end of the summer holiday. This will enable us to provide a new servery for the children, better storage and toilet facilities and enlarge our wood-panelled School Hall. As more and more pupils join us this development is essential to enhance our provision of food and provide more space for curricular and extra-curricular activities. It will also give the hall something of a facelift with a new floor and décor."

Coopersale Hall has the benefit of a large car park that helps parents when dropping off or picking up when on the daily school runs. Renovation work started at Easter to resurface the main car park, with completion due by the end of the summer break. ■



Coopersale Hall School, Epping

THE DETAILS

For more information visit: www.oaktreeschools.co.uk