

Brakenhale School Parent News

14th July 2017



Dear Parents/Carers

The penultimate week of term has been exceptionally busy. On Monday we welcomed back the Paris trip. Students had a fantastic four days away with every one of them thanking staff and the coach driver when they were dropped back off to school. It was so lovely to hear that they recognised the time and effort that was given up by staff in order to give them this great opportunity. A big thank you to Mr Thomas for leading this trip and to all the staff who went with them.

This week has also seen our first cinema reward trip with over a hundred students being selected based on exemplary behaviour and attendance throughout the year. We have received so many messages of thanks from parents and students and it is just lovely to be able to reward those who continually meet our very high expectations. I am very aware that there are a significant number of students who just missed out on this trip and we are already looking at ways in which to reward them to. Again thanks go to Mr Thomas and Mrs Silvey for organising this.

Wednesday saw our annual Sports Day event take place and although the sun was not shining the rain did hold off! There were some outstanding individual performances and it was so lovely to see the whole school supporting their houses and enjoying a really positive whole school activity. Mr Yeates and the PE department, along with many staff helpers, made sure that it was a really successful occasion.

Last night was the annual celebration of success evening. This was for those students who achieved the highest accolade from each department, by being awarded Learner of the Year, as well as the Sports Men and Women of the Year and Teams of the Year. Joining us for the occasion was Ian Rose, a Paralympian Judo medal winner. He presented the awards and spoke passionately about achieving your dreams. His strapline "practice makes progress" is a good message for us all. Sitting on the stage, myself and the Chair of Governors, Karen Roche, were delighted to see the immense pride on the faces of parents and carers as their young people stepped forward to receive their awards. Well done to everybody involved in the event.

Best wishes

Jane Coley, Headteacher

What's on next week

Monday 17 th July	Dance Show
Friday 21 st July	Last day of term School ends for students at 12.05pm

Book Look Week for Year 7

During Book Look weeks, exercise books/folders are sent home with students for parents to see their son/daughter's work and how they are progressing in their subjects.

There seemed to be some confusion regarding Year 7 Book Look Week. We are therefore asking the Year 7 students bring their books home next week for you to look at. Could we please ask that parents and students ensure that they bring their books back to into school after taking them home.

Your views are important to us and we would also appreciate, once you have looked at your son or daughter's work, for you to take a few minutes to complete the parental survey that we will send out again towards the end of the week.

Miss Baveystock, Assistant Headteacher



Cinema Trip

As a reward for their commitment, the top 30 students recognised by their Head of Year for high attendance, good behaviour and attainment this academic year were invited on a trip to watch the new Spider-Man: Homecoming movie at Bracknell Cinema on Tuesday 11th July.

The students all had a great time and were an absolute credit to the school.

PTA Funding

The PTA has recently donated a significant amount of money towards various departments.

The Photography department requested funding so that they could buy some new equipment, including photographic studio cubes, tripods and lights.

Here you can see Year 7s using the equipment in class.



Dance Workshop

Our Year 11 students who are continuing their studies with us at Sixth Form next year were invited to a workshop morning with past student Freya Harris.

The group worked on contemporary dance technique and improvisation over the two hours.

Freya is continuing her studies at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance next year and has been supporting the department over the last term.

Miss Haley, Head of Dance and Drama



Drama News

Stage Fighting Workshop

Our GCSE and BTEC Drama students had the opportunity to work with Professional Actor Steve Halliday on Monday. They participated in a stage fighting workshop and choreographed short performances, which the students loved.

Whole School Show

In September, the Performing Arts teachers will be holding auditions for the show "School of Rock". Information about auditions will be released in September, in the mean-time if you are interested; do some research, watch the film and come and speak to a member of the Performing Arts Team.

Mrs Raby and Miss Haley, Dance and Drama



Year 10 GCSE Photography Trip

On Tuesday we took 16 Year 10 students who have been studying GCSE Photography to use the darkroom at Bracknell and Wokingham College. This gave the students the fantastic opportunity to use facilities that we do not (yet) have at the school.

The students were brilliant - they worked really hard and were a credit to the school. They all enjoyed themselves and produced some great photograms. Some even said that it was the 'best day ever!'

Miss Wilhelmy, Photography Teacher



Parent Workshops

The following Parent workshops are available next term.

If you are interested please contact Tracey Gosling, our Family Worker, by telephone on 01344 465045 or via email: tgosling@brakenhale.co.uk


Date	Time	Workshop
20/9/17	9.30am-11.30am	Anxiety Workshop
25/9/17	6.30pm-8.30pm	Self Esteem Workshop
28/9/17	9.30am-11.30am	Managing Behaviour Workshop
5/10/17	9.30am-11.30am	Communication Workshop
12/10/17	6.30pm-8.30pm	Pre-Teens Workshop
19/10/17	6.30pm-8.30pm	Anxiety Workshop

Medicines at the end of term

If your son or daughter has any medication in school that is held in the medical room can they please collect it from school on the last day of the term if you wish for it to be kept.

We will not be leaving any medication at school over the holidays and therefore any items left after the end of term will be disposed of at a Pharmacy.

Mrs Ball, Health Coordinator



Workshop and talk for parents of children awaiting diagnosis or newly diagnosed with **Autism Spectrum Disorder**

Thursday 14th September 9.30am-12.30pm at The Oaks and Hilles Children's Centre, Woodsworth, Bracknell RG12 8QH

Bracknell Parent Forum welcomes local charities

Autism Berkshire
and
Parenting Special Children

They will be providing information on their services and how they can offer support and guidance.

Tea, coffee, cake and biscuits provided.
All parents/carers welcome.

www.autismberkshire.org.uk
www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk

The Wayz Summer Offer 2017

Young People Aged 14-17yrs

When?	What?	Where?	Wayz Member	Non Wayz Member
2nd Aug	Go-Karting	TeamSport, Reading	£25.00	£35.00
4th Aug	Aqua Inflatables	Lagoons Park, Reading	£10.00	£17.50
9th Aug	London & Duck Tours	Various London Locations	£20.00	£35.00
11th Aug	Kayaking / Canoeing	Wokingham Waterside Centre, Reading	£20.00	£35.00
16th Aug	Paintballing	Delta Force, Maidenhead	£17.50	£25.00
20-22nd Aug	Watersport Residential	Rhos y Gwalia, Wales	£50.00	£80.00

Limited Spaces so Book Early!

For more information or to book on please speak to your youth leader or contact:
Gareth Mopham 01344 483 596 / 07328 816 156 or gareth.mopham@berkshireryouth.co.uk



PE News

Sports Day!

This week we saw the weather change and lots of rain come down, luckily this did not dampen the spirits for Sports Day. The day was a great success and we only saw 15 minutes of rain!

We had a high number of students taking part which saw some fantastic performances and a massive congratulations to everyone who took part. It was nice to see students wearing their house colours and not only supporting students in their year but in their house as well.

During the morning we had the field events; which consisted of long jump, high jump, shot and javelin.

Here are some new records from the field events:

- Conor T - 8R - Javelin - 25.72m
- Chloe R - 8E - Javelin - 15.32m
- Travis T - 7R - Javelin - 27.56m
- Laura H - 10E - High Jump - 1.15m
- Charlie W - 10K - Long Jump - 5.25m

Then after an early lunch the whole school came down to watch the track events, together with 'Welly Wanging' and Tug of War. We even had a fantastic opening ceremony choreographed by Miss Haley. Thank you to all the dancers who were involved, they were all amazing!

Here are some records from the field events:

- Claudia P - 10R - 300m - 49.04 seconds
- Sarah B - 8K - 100m - 13.94 seconds
- Danielle B - 9H - 300m - 47.54 seconds
- Ben L - 10H - 200m - 21.87 seconds
- Archie J - 7N - 200m - 25.03 seconds
- Ricky O - 7H - 200m - 22.77 seconds
- Ellis H - 9H - 200m - 21.27 seconds

Huge congratulations to everyone who broke a record and who took part in sports day. The winners of this year's sports day were HAWKING with 427 points. Please see the tally board below.

Thank you to all the staff who helped organise and take on a role we could not have done it without them.

Thanks again to the rest of the PE department for a successful day.

Miss L Willimott, Lead Coordinator of Girls PE and Teacher in Charge of Health and Social Care



		Points	Position
	Hawking	427	1
	Austen	417	2
	Nightingale	414	3
	Rowling	407	4
	King	375	5
	Einstein	371	6
	Brunel	329	7

PTA News



The PTA meets once every half term. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Our next meeting will be in the autumn term next academic year, everyone is invited.

Bracknell Show

We will once again have a stall at the Bracknell Lions Bracknell Show on Saturday 22nd July at Wildridings Playing Fields between 12noon and 5pm, so come and join in the fun.

FREE ENTRY!
 For the third year running,
Bracknell Lions Present:
Bracknell Show

Fun day out
for the family!

Support local
charities!

Sat 22nd July 2017
Wildridings Playing Fields
 12-5 and live music & BYO picnic from 5:30

Arena displays - Food stalls - Arts & crafts
Bouncy castles - Face painting and much more!

@BracknellLions
www.bracknellforestlions.org.uk/bracknellshow.html
www.facebook.com/Bracknellforestlions

Charity number 10311551

Proud sponsors

01344 301142

Design
Branding
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thamesvalleysigns.co.uk

School Lottery

Congratulations to the recent prize draw winners.

Don't forget to join up and purchase your tickets to start helping our school.

Our supporters have gone down recently, so if you haven't signed up now would be the time. This is an easy way to make money for the school and be in with a chance for winning. Thank you to all who have bought tickets and who continue to support the school.

We have now had 15 draws since we launched our school lottery which means 15 lucky people have won £276.80 between them. Why not join today and not only will you be in with a chance of winning in the weekly prize draws but you will be helping to raise money for the school at the same time.

Click here to [Support the Brakenhale Lottery](#)



Last term School Lottery gave the chance for 4 supporters to win a Kindle E-Reader, well done to the winners.

This term they are offering the chance for 2 players to win a Family Heritage Membership. You can find full details on their website.

Our School Lottery is a fun and effective way to raise money to help improve our school but we need your help to make it the best it can be.



Easy Fundraising

With easyfundraising.org.uk you collect free donations to your selected cause every time you shop. You can make a big difference on everything from groceries to getaways and it doesn't cost you a penny!

When you shop the easyfundraising way with one of their 3083 shops and sites they give easyfundraising a commission for your purchase which is turned into a donation for your selected good cause.

When you visit the website easyfundraising.org.uk - simply search for the retailer you want to shop with and click out to them using the green 'Go Shopping' button. You will be taken straight to the retailer's website and your experience will be identical as if you had gone there directly but easyfundraising will be able to track your purchase to ensure a donation for your good cause.

You can also install their Donation Reminder - this means a box will appear if you are shopping with a retailer who participates in the Donation Reminder and you don't even need to visit the easyfundraising site! All you need to do is click Activate Donations and any eligible purchase will be recorded for you. Take a look at the Donation Reminder [here](#). The Donation Reminder is supported by Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer and Safari but can't work on mobile phones or tablets.

Shopping on your mobile? No problem, for mobile phones and tablets there is the handy easyfundraising App, perfect if you like to shop on the go and available completely free of charge from your App store. Now you can not only shop using it but you can check out your own donation total and see how your cause is getting on too. More information can be found [here](#).

Don't forget to shop through www.easyfundraising.org.uk to effortlessly help raise money for the school!



Future Diary Dates

Thursday 17 th August	Sixth Form Results Day in the Sixth Form Common Room Year 13 may pick up results from 9:00 Year 12 may pick up results from 11:00
Thursday 24 th August	Year 11 Results Day in the Main Hall Results may be picked up between 9:00-13:00
Friday 1 st and Monday 4 th September	Inset Days – no school for students
Tuesday 5 th September	Back to school for students

Term Dates

SUMMER TERM 2017

Wednesday 19th April – Friday 21st July 2017

Summer Half Term - Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2017

Summer Holiday for students– Monday 24th July to Monday 4th September

AUTUMN TERM 2017

Inset Days: Friday 1st and Monday 4th September
Inset Days: Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th December

Term dates for students:
Tuesday 5th September – Friday 15th December 2017

Autumn Half Term – Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October

Christmas Holiday for students – Monday 18th December to Tuesday 2nd January 2018



SPRING TERM 2018

Term dates for students:
Wednesday 3rd January – Thursday 29th March

Spring Half Term – Monday 12th to Friday 16th February

Easter Holiday – Friday 30th March to Friday 13th April

SUMMER TERM 2018

Term dates for students:
Monday 16th April – Friday 20th July

Inset Day: Monday 23rd July

Summer Half Term - Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June

Summer Holiday for students – Monday 23rd July to (date to be confirmed)

Bracknell Forest term dates can be found on their website:
<http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schooltermandholidaydates>



Term Dates 2017-18

Autumn Term: Friday 1 st September to Tuesday 19 th December 2017	Inset: Friday 1 st & Monday 4 th September, Monday 18 th & Tuesday 19 th December	Half Term: Monday 23 rd to Friday 27 th October
Spring Term: Wednesday 3 rd January to Thursday 29 th March 2018		Half Term: Monday 12 th to Friday 16 th February
Summer Term: Monday 16 th April to Monday 23 rd July 2018	Inset: Monday 23 rd July	Half Term: Monday 28 th May to Friday 1 st June

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