

# Brakenhale School Parent News

30<sup>th</sup> June 2017



Dear Parents/Carers

Although the public examinations have now finished our students are still firmly focused on their studies with Year 10 students having completed a full week of PPEs (Pre Public Examinations), they have taken these very seriously and conducted themselves extremely well. Today our Year 9 students have all completed a two-hour Religious Studies examination as these students will sit their final exam at the end of Year 10. The Year 9 students have really impressed us with how seriously they have taken this first experience of an examination situation and although it is not an external exam, it is extremely important in their preparation. A big thank you to Ms Baveystock and Mr Kingston for all the work they have done this year in setting up this new qualification which students are showing such great progress in.

Friday night saw the Year 11 Prom take place at St Anne's Manor, it was a lovely evening, the students dressed in their finery and many staff too. A really positive way for students to remember their school career. Thank you to those staff in the background who organised the event and helped make it such a success. Many of these students returned to us on Monday and Tuesday for Sixth Form transition. It was great to see how seriously they are taking their futures and how excited they were to begin their post 16 learning. Thank you to Mr Boucher and Mr Dale for ensuring the smooth running of the two days. If anybody is still interested in joining us in the Sixth Form please contact Mr Hartley who will be happy to discuss this with you.

The start of the week also saw the Duke of Edinburgh Silver expedition take place which was a great success and this week coming sees the Bronze Award students embark on their expedition. As ever 'Thank you' to Mr Hicks, Miss Daniels and Miss Willimott for all their support of this award. As I mentioned last week, there is certainly no sitting back for these final few weeks of term so please continue to check the rest of this week's newsletter and our schoolcomms messages to ensure you don't miss out on any of the exciting upcoming events.

Best wishes

*Jane Coley, Headteacher*

## What's on next week

2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	<b>Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Assessment</b>
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	<b>Art and Photography Exhibition, 5-7pm</b>
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Music Show, 6-8pm</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Year 6 Transition Days</b>
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Year 6 Information Evening</b>
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Year 10 Mock Interviews</b> <b>Parent Support Group</b>
7 <sup>th</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Year 8 and 9 Trip to France</b>

### Parent Support Group

at Brakenhale

Rescheduled for Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July  
9.30 to 11am

Please come and meet our Family Support Worker and other parents to discuss all aspects of living with teenagers.

Refreshments will be provided.

Please come to main reception where Tracey Gosling, our Family Support Advisor will meet you.

The Brakenhale School  
Fenny Lane  
Brackley  
Bedfordshire  
MK12 7BA  
01544 423041  
t.gosling@brakenhale.co.uk

High Expectations and Challenge for All

## Art and Photography Exhibition

The Art and Photography departments wish to invite you to come and celebrate the wonderful work that has been created this year by our very talented GCSE and A-Level students. Work will be displayed in the main hall from 5pm to 7pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. All students and their families are welcome to attend so please come along and view the talent we have at Brakenhale.

*Mrs S Higham, Head of Design Technology*



## University Conference



On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Mr Benson, Mrs Duddy, Ms Moore and 25 of our Year 10 students visited London for a conference on “How to get into the country's top universities”. Whilst it seems early to be thinking about university, the conference gave some excellent advice on what courses and institutions are out there, and how to reach that goal. All the students were of course wonderfully behaved and left London with renewed aspirations and a determination to aim for the brightest possible future.

*Mr Benson, Head of Year 10*

## Dance and Drama News

### Year 12 Dance Performance Unit

The Year 12 students worked with John Darvell of Nocturn Dance for an intensive day as part of their Dance Performance unit last week. This was relevant industry experience enabling students to work as a professional Dance Company and complete part of their BTEC assessment. The work will be performed as part of the Dance Show on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July.

John commented that students showed excellent commitment throughout the day and that he was really impressed with the work produced.

### Year 9 Drama

On Tuesday, actor Jack Fairey performed extract monologues from Gary Owens, *The Drowned World* to our Year 9 students. This is part of their Bronze Arts Award and during their PSHE lessons they discussed one of the themes from the play; loneliness in society. They will also be taking time in Drama lessons to analyse the technical and performance components. The Year 9 students responded positively, displayed maturity and represented the school brilliantly. Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible.



### Year 10 Drama Workshops

Year 10 students took part in a highly successful audition workshop in preparation for their Year 11 BTEC Audition unit and as part of PPE week. Students worked with Mark Hooper, Creative Director of South Hill Park, focusing on audition techniques and building confidence with monologues. Students were highly focused and committed throughout the session.

*Miss Haley, Head of Drama and Dance and Mrs Raby, Teacher of Drama and Dance*

## Brakenhale School Ski Trip 2018

We are proposing to run our school ski trip at Easter 2018 to Sestriere in Italy between 31<sup>st</sup> March and 7<sup>th</sup> April 2018 during the Easter Holiday. The trip is currently open to current Year 7 and Year 8 students who will be in Year 8 and Year 9 next Easter.



An Information Evening was held last week for parents of students who are potentially interested in going on the trip. Please contact Mr Yeates if you would like to find out more information.

The trip will cost £1,100, which includes flights, coach transfers, 3\* Hotel accommodation including all meals and full ski hire (not clothing). Payments can be made in monthly instalments between July 2017 and March 2018.

If you would like your son/daughter to be allocated a place on this trip please complete the trip form and return it to Main Reception no later than Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June with a non-refundable deposit of £150.00 on ParentPay.

Mr W Yeates, Head of PE

### 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	Lagoona 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 Gwallia, 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 / 07928 816 186 or gareth.mopham@berkshlyouth.co.uk

## Supporting Thames Valley Air Ambulance

Thank you to everyone who has been collecting clean plastic milk bottle tops and used stamps to help raise money for the TVAA Thames Valley Air Ambulance.

You have helped raise £350 so thank you for your efforts in this.

If you would like to help this cause, please send in your bottle tops (any colour, but please only clean **milk** bottle tops) and used stamps.

Bottle tops and stamps are being collected in the Head of Year Office, Staff Room or Main Reception.

Many thanks.



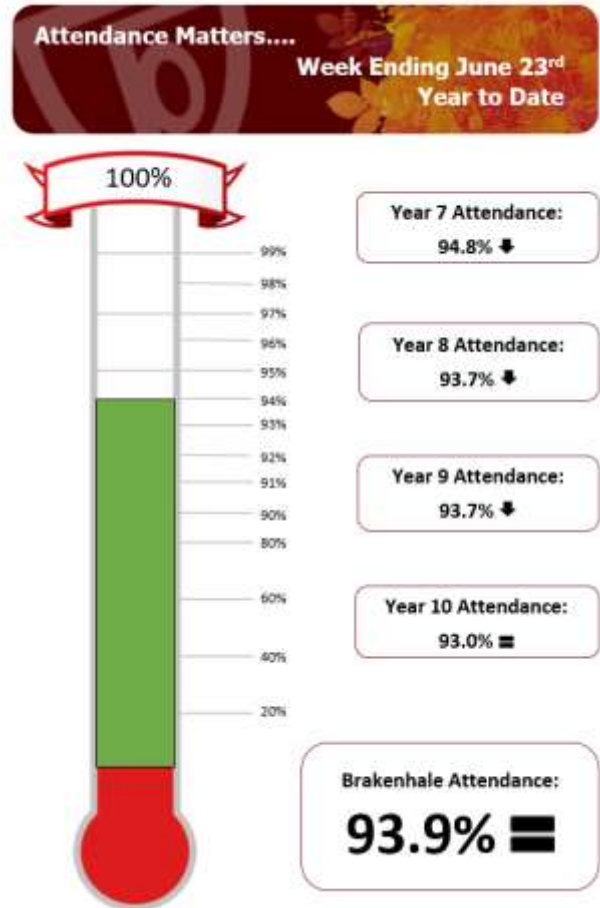


## Attendance

Attendance for the school is currently at 93.9%

As always, please contact the school by email at [schoolattendance@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:schoolattendance@brakenhale.co.uk) or by telephone on 01344 465050 on each day of absence so that we can update the register. Over the coming weeks we will be contacting parents where this information hasn't been provided.

*Mrs Evans, Attendance Officer*



## PTA Funding

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

Music has been established as one of the most enjoyable subjects so the PTA were delighted to be able to help with improving equipment in the department to help students make better progress and enjoy their music education with suitable working equipment.

Here is some of the equipment in use.



**PE News****@brakenhalePE**

We have had another busy week this week with lots of fixtures!

**Rounders**

On Thursday we had Year 8 and 9 rounders matches at Ranelagh. Both teams had a very good first innings, they were amazing at fielding with some brilliant catches and stumping out! When it was our turn to bat, we had some fantastic shots especially with Saskia and her backhand! During the second innings the heat and tiredness kicked in and we mis-fielded a couple of balls resulting in Ranelagh getting 3 rounders.

Year 8 final score: Ranelagh 15 Brakenhale 10 ½ - Saskia S was player of the match as she had some fantastic backhand hits. Well done and good luck for your next match!

Year 9 final score: Ranelagh 18 Brakenhale 8 1/2 - Tegan R was player of the match some amazing fielding. Well done you worked incredibly well. Good luck for you next match!

**Athletics**

This week has seen the final of athletics at Palmer Park for Year 7 and 8. A well-deserved congratulations to the following students who have shown real dedication and commitment to athletics: Elissa F, Kayleigh L, Ariana K, Maddie N and Joe M.

On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June, Joe M and Jaime P are representing Bracknell in Athletics. Good Luck Boys. At the time of writing this event has not taken place so will be reported on in next week's parent news.

**Ultimate Frisbee**

On Tuesday we went to Garth to attend the Ultimate Frisbee Competition. The team was made up of 5 Year 10 students and needed to be a mixture of boys and girls. They played fantastically and showed a real sense of teamwork considering some of the students have never played ultimate Frisbee before! The team had some hard matches but despite this they managed to win the tournament. Well done to all involved. They are now through to the Berkshire School Games on the 6<sup>th</sup> July.

**Sports Day**

Not long until Sports Day so please ensure you have your house colour ready and waiting! Please come along to Athletics club on a Tuesday and Thursday in order to practice for your event!


**Here are the fixtures for the rest of the term!**

Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 7 and 8 Cricket v Ranelagh @ Home
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Young Ambassadors - Berkshire School Games @ Bisham Abbey 8.30am-5.30pm
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Young Ambassadors - Berkshire School Games @ Bisham Abbey 8.30am-5.30pm
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 9 and 10 Rounders v Sandhurst and Garth @ Brakenhale
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Young Ambassador Meeting @ Garth - 4-5pm Year 7 and 8 Cricket v Sandhurst @ Home
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 7 Rounders v Edgbarrow @ Edgbarrow



**Extra-Curricular Clubs**

The extra-curricular timetable for this half term! Please encourage students to attend as we have lots of fixtures coming up!

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>AFTER SCHOOL</b> 3:10 - 4:30	<b>Staff Meetings</b>  	<b>Athletics</b> Mr Jackson-Sankey, Mr Yeates, Miss Willimott  <b>Cricket</b> <b>KS3</b> Mr Boucher	<b>Rounders and Rounders Leaders</b> All Years Miss Willimott, Miss Rushby  <b>Cricket</b> <b>KS4</b> Mr Beukes  <b>Softball</b> All Years Mr Jackson-Sankey	<b>Athletics</b> Mr Boucher, Mr Beukes, Miss Rushby  <b>Tennis</b> All Years Mr Yeates	<b>GCSE Revision/ BTEC Catch up (Year 10 and 11)</b> Mr Yeates, Miss Rushby, Mr Beukes, Miss Willimott, Mr Boucher

\* Trampolining to be confirmed

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

**Berkshire Athletics**

Joe M in Year 7 came third in the county yesterday at the Berkshire Athletics Finals for Javelin. He came first in the District round to qualify and was 15cm off winning the event!

Jamie P also qualified for the Berkshire Finals after winning his race (75m sprint) at the District event. Jamie came fourth in his heat during yesterday's county competition.

Well done to Joe and Jamie for some brilliant performances, we look forward to seeing your Sports Day attempts!

*Mr W Yeates, Head of PE*

**Parenting Support**

Parenting Special Children ([www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk](http://www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk)) is a Berkshire charity based in Reading who offer specialist parenting support to families who have children with special needs including ADHD and Autism.

They have a Sensory Processing workshop taking place in July which parents might find useful.

<http://www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk/event/sensory-processing-workshop-bracknell/>

*Miss Manisier, Student Support Manager, Deputy Designated Child Protection Lead*



## 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.

Thank you for collecting your unwanted clothes, shoes and accessories for recycling. We are delighted to have collected 406kg of clothing and accessories which has raised £162.40 for the school.

Please continue to collect your unwanted clothes and accessories for the next collection in the Autumn term.

### Bracknell Show

We will once again have a stall at the Bracknell Lions Bracknell Show on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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!

**LIONS  
L  
INTERNATIONAL**

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!

Charity number 1031551

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



## 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.

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](http://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](http://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](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) to effortlessly help raise money for the school!





## Future Diary Dates

<p>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July</p> <p>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July</p> <p>15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> July</p> <p>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July</p> <p>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July</p> <p>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August</p> <p>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August</p>	<p><b>Sports Day</b></p> <p><b>Year 10 Enterprise Day</b> <b>Summer Awards Evening</b></p> <p><b>Duke of Edinburgh Silver Expedition</b></p> <p><b>Dance Show</b></p> <p><b>Last day of term</b></p> <p><b>Sixth Form Results Day</b> in the Sixth Form Common Room Year 13 may pick up results from 9:00 Year 12 may pick up results from 11:00</p> <p><b>Year 11 Results Day</b> in the Main Hall Results may be picked up between 9:00-13:00</p>
---	---

**Term Dates**

**SUMMER TERM 2017**

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017

Summer Half Term - Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2017

Summer Holiday for students– Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July to Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September

**AUTUMN TERM 2017**

*Inset Days: Friday 1<sup>st</sup> and Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September*  
*Inset Days: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December*

Term dates for students:  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Autumn Half Term – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October



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



**Term Dates 2017-18**

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

**Brakenhale School, Rectory Lane, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 7BA**  
 ☎ 01344 423041 ~ ✉ mainreception@brakenhale.co.uk ~ 🌐 www.brakenhale.co.uk