



Dear Parents/Carers

This week has again been focused on raising achievements, particularly across Year 11, where all students have had a change of curriculum timetable. They have had five full days of options subjects and Science in order to really focus on moving forward in these areas.

Some quotes from students include:

'It has been hard work but I feel I have benefitted from it as I have caught up in Drama and now moved ahead'

'It was good and we should do it again nearer the exams'

*Kaiya Reid & Hattie Kettle*

We have also welcomed the Mayor this week who was very impressed with all the young people that he spoke to. Further details below.

I have also been delighted with the progress that is being made by a number of students as illustrated in the recent AP report for Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 and I have very much enjoyed reading through them and signing a number of praise letters that will be sent out across the next couple of weeks.

We have been really pleased to receive a number of donations in the last half term, particularly for our library from publisher such as Egmont and Walker. Reading is such an important part of all students learning and anything we can do to further this is always a positive.

Finally, I have decided to add to parent news vacancies within the school that I think may be of interest to parents and the local community. Please do take a look.

I hope you all enjoy the weekend ahead!

Yours faithfully

Jane Coley, Headteacher

**#challengeforall**

## Bag2School Collection

Thank you to everyone who brought in old clothes, shoes and accessories to help raise money for the school and students.

We collected in an impressive amount of bags this year – 380kg to be exact - and raised a well-deserved £152 for the school.

Well done to everyone who helped.

We collect clothing in twice a year, so don't worry if you have missed this one. Keep collecting your items and bring them in to school – we can store them until the next collection!

## Young Chef Competition

Mrs Higham and Ms Shaya had the pleasure of attending the Young Chef competition with Cerys Kerrigan Jones and her parents on Tuesday and Cerys did Brakenhale proud with her outstanding performance.

The task was to create a healthy two course meal for two persons within a budget of £11.00 and also within a time frame of ninety minutes. All this had to be accomplished in an unfamiliar kitchen and under the scrutiny of three judges. Cerys created an intricate pasta dish with a tempting meringue dessert.

Cerys' parents and ourselves watched by a live link in a separate room... nail biting moments!



The result was very close, a few points between candidates. Cerys was a joint finalist with three other students. The result was based on planning, costing of her products, skills demonstrated and health and safety measures that were followed.

Well done Cerys, we are so proud of you!

*Mrs Higham, Head of Technology*

## 'Why Vote'

The Year 12 and 13 students took part in an event on Wednesday to help promote voting amongst the younger generation. In the last general election only 34% of 18-25 year olds voted and Bracknell Forest Council are keen to increase this.

The event consisted of two parts, the first an agree/disagree debate of key political issues for both themselves and the UK as a whole. The second was a financial challenge to share money amongst the different government areas and justify why. As a twist the students then had their budget cut and had to carefully consider where those cuts would come from!

Bracknell Forest Mayor Tony Virgo was involved in the event and was impressed to see our students taking a keen interest in political issues and their reasoned arguments for and against issues.

Students enjoyed the event, commenting: 'I really enjoyed being able to debate topical issues for us'. Another said 'I liked learning what it actually is that the government does'!

*Miss C Thomas, Student Voice Coordinator*



## What's On Next Week

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November **Start of Year 9 Internal Exams**

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November **PTA Christmas Market**

Our exciting annual Christmas Market will be taking place on Thursday next week.

Please join us with family and friends, stalls will be selling all kinds of different items and produce, such as:

Make-up products; Hair accessories; Gifts and Christmas decorations; Gadgets;  
 Jewellery, including glass; Handmade cards; Aloe Vera products; Needlecraft;  
 Cakes and other food products; Handmade toiletries; Books ... and many others...



## Year 9 Exams

Year 9 students will be completing exams in the Main Hall on Monday 21<sup>st</sup>, Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. These will be conducted in Exams conditions, in the Main Hall and Conference Room.

If students bring mobile phones to school during exam time, these will be handed in to Senior member of staff who will look after them until the end of the day.

Please see the timetable below, please note that students are expected to have all their tools for learning along with revision material with them. Please do not hesitate to contact the Exams Team if you have any further questions.

*Mrs Seymour, Exams Officer*

	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov
Period 1 & 2	Maths 1 Hour 30	Maths 1 Hour 30	P1 French Listening 45 Mins (95) Students  P2 Spanish Listening 45 Mins (80) Students	<b>Normal Lessons</b>	
Period 3 & 4	RS 1 Hour	Science 1 Hour	History 1 Hour		
Period 5	English 1 Hour	ICT 1 Hour	Geography 1 Hour		

## Free School Meals

The authorisation and administration procedure for Free School Meals is handled by the Admissions Department of Bracknell Forest Council. Applications can be made in a number of different ways.

You can call Bracknell Forest Council Customer Services on 01344 352 000 who will complete the application form for you. You will need to provide your National Insurance number, name and date of birth plus the name(s) of your child(ren) and the name of the school they attend.

We would like to make you aware that it is worth applying for Free School Meals entitlement even if your child does not require a school lunch because entitlement to this benefit comes with an automatic reduction in the cost of school trips (in the UK) and may also entitle you to receive financial assistance with other school related expenses.

To find out more please visit the Bracknell Forest website [here](#).



## Vacancies

We currently have the following support staff vacancies in school:

- **Teaching Assistant**
- **Cover Supervisor**

We have exciting opportunities for an experienced, committed and enthusiastic Teaching Assistant and a Cover Supervisor. The successful candidates will join a team of teachers who are passionate about engaging and inspiring young people in their learning. We are looking to recruit colleagues with both the commitment and relevant skills to drive our raising standards agenda across the whole ability range.

## PTA News



### PTA Upcoming Events:

Christmas Raffle:	Up until the end of term
Christmas Market:	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November
PTA Meeting:	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December





## News from Greenshaw Learning Trust



### Crown Wood Primary School proposes to join the Trust

The Governing Body of Crown Wood Primary School is proposing that the school should become an academy and join the Greenshaw Learning Trust.

The Governing Body, with its school leaders, has been carefully considering the school's future, and having evaluated its options, has agreed unanimously that it believes that the best way of ensuring that Crown Wood can build on its strengths and continue on its journey of improvement is to become an Academy as part of the Greenshaw Learning Trust.

John Throssell, Chair of Governors at Crown Wood, said:

“Being part of the Greenshaw family of schools will enable Crown Wood to collaborate more closely with like-minded schools – both primary and secondary – and bring support and economies of scale that will benefit our pupils.

The Trust works in the community Crown Wood serves, running nearby Brakenhale School, and understands our pupils' strengths and needs.”

Mike Cooper, Chair of the Greenshaw Learning Trust said:

“We are delighted that Crown Wood Primary School wants to join our Trust. Crown Wood will both benefit from and contribute to close collaboration with the Trust's other schools and the support the Trust can provide will help Crown Wood on its journey of improvement.”

As an academy in the Greenshaw Learning Trust, Crown Wood Primary School will maintain its existing character and ethos, will not change its name or its admission arrangements, and will maintain terms and conditions for its staff.

Over the coming weeks the school will be consulting its stakeholders, including staff and parents, on this proposal, with further information about the proposals and opportunities for people to ask questions and give their views.

### Consultation on Crown Wood joining the Greenshaw Learning Trust

Brakenhale and Crown Wood serve the same community and understand the strengths and needs of its young people - many go on from Crown Wood to attend Brakenhale. With Crown Wood in the Greenshaw Learning Trust alongside Brakenhale, the pupils of both schools will benefit from their closer collaboration.

A consultation is being carried out and views and comments on the proposal are welcome from stakeholders of both Crown Wood Primary School and Brakenhale School.

There is further information about the proposal on our school website [here](#).

There is also a link to [Crown Wood's website](#) where you can find out further information and give your views.

Crown Wood's proposal leaflet can be found [here](#).

If you are responding to the consultation as a student, parent or member of staff at Brakenhale, please state this in your response.

If you wish to give your views or comments on the proposal, please do so before 20<sup>th</sup> January.



**Proposal to become  
an academy with the  
Greenshaw Learning Trust**

**The Governing Body of Crown Wood Primary School is proposing that the school should become an academy and join the Greenshaw Learning Trust.**

The Governing Body, with the school leaders, has been carefully considering the school's future, and having evaluated its options, has agreed unanimously that it believes that the best way of ensuring that Crown Wood can build on its strengths and continue on its journey of improvement is to become an Academy as part of the Greenshaw Learning Trust.

The Greenshaw Learning Trust works in the community Crown Wood serves, and it understands our pupils' strengths and needs. It runs three secondary schools and three primary schools in South London and Bracknell, including nearby Brakenhale School.

As part of the Greenshaw family of schools Crown Wood will be able to benefit from and contribute to close collaboration within a community of like-minded schools whilst retaining its character.

The Governing Body is developing its proposals, working with the Greenshaw Learning Trust, Department for Education and Bracknell Forest Council, and its consulting stakeholders, including the school's staff and parents. If the process proceeds to plan it is expected that Crown Wood will become an academy and join the Greenshaw Learning Trust on 1 April 2017.

**The Governing Body welcomes the views of stakeholders on the proposal to become an academy and join the Greenshaw Learning Trust, as set out in this leaflet and on the school website.**

## Future Diary Dates

Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Start of Year 11 PPEs (Mock exams)</b>
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>PTA Meeting</b>
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Dance Show</b>
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Year 8 Parents' Evening</b>
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Music Concert</b>
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Last day of Autumn Term for students</b>
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> , Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Inset Days</b>

### Term Dates 2016-17

*Inset Days: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2016  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017*

#### AUTUMN TERM 2016

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September – Friday  
16<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>  
December 2016 **Inset Days**

Autumn Half Term - Monday 24<sup>th</sup>  
to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016

**Christmas Holiday  
(including Inset days):  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016 to  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017**

#### SPRING TERM 2017

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Friday  
31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

Spring Half Term - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017

**Spring Holiday: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April  
to Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

*(Good Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April,  
Easter Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April)*

*Please note Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April is  
an Inset Day*

#### SUMMER TERM 2017

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April **Inset Day**  
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



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

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*High Expectations and Challenge for All*