

# Brakenhale School Parent News

11<sup>th</sup> November 2016



Dear Parents/Carers

The run up to Christmas has now truly arrived with the airing of the John Lewis advert; love it or hate it, it has become linked to the start of the festive season. However, we still have 5 more school weeks to go before the end of this term and for many of our students it will be a very significant time.

Next week Year 11 will be completing their Science ISA examinations which are worth 25% of their final marks and alongside their teachers they have been busily preparing for this. Year 11 also have their PPEs (Pre Public Examinations) coming up at the end of this month.

Our Year 9 students begin their internal examinations on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November, these are very important for them when choosing their options.

Option choices have been a significant topic of conversation this week as we held our very successful Sixth Form Open Evening on Tuesday. The hall was packed with parents and students eager to hear about the excellent opportunities available at Brakenhale Sixth Form.

Please continue to send in your feedback and views on how the school is working for your young person.

Yours faithfully

Jane Coley, Headteacher

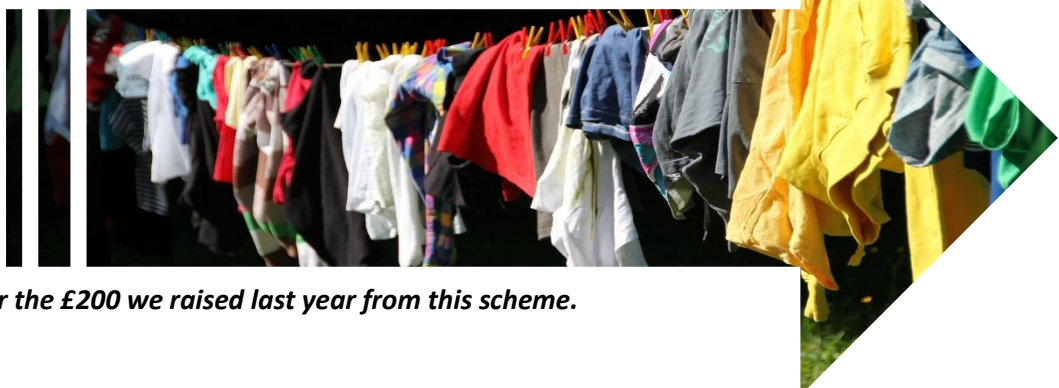


#challengeforall

## What's On Next Week

Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Start of Sixth Form PPEs (Mock exams)</b> <b>Year 11 Science ISA Day</b>
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Year 11 Options Week: Option A</b>
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Year 11 Options Week: Option B</b>
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Year 11 Options Week: Option D</b> <b>End date for Collection of Unwanted Clothes/Accessories for Recycling</b> <b>Year 10 Parents' Evening, 4-7pm</b>
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Year 11 Options Week: Option C</b>

***Don't forget to send us your unwanted clothes for the PTA recycling scheme to help raise money for the students.***



***We are trying to better the £200 we raised last year from this scheme.***

More details on the PTA page...

**Please Remember**

- As the nights are drawing in and temperatures are dropping, we would like to remind students to be safe and seen when travelling to and from school. Please ensure your son/daughter wears a helmet and uses lights when cycling to school, particularly as the risk of ice increases.
- Please ensure all bikes/scooters are securely locked up while in school.
- Footballs brought to school must be in a plastic bag or handed in to the PE office. Footballs being carried around school will be confiscated.

## Year 11 Students Visit Reading University

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November, I had the distinct pleasure of accompanying fourteen Year 11 students to the Reading University Aim Higher Conference. The day was designed to help provide students with strategies to enhance their study skills and improve their revision techniques, as well as to raise aspirations to motivate students to perform to the best of their ability. The study skills session was engaging and one student described the two hour session as 'brilliant' while others agreed that they will definitely be employing some of the techniques in preparing for their PPEs and GCSE Exams.



# University of Reading

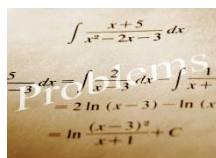
Our Year 11s also enjoyed a tour of the University Campus, and had opportunities to engage with students studying at the University. In addition the group attended two subject based workshop sessions of their choice in subjects they have not experienced in school. Some of these included areas such as Archaeology, Meteorology, Business and Getting into University.

All fourteen students were a credit to the school. The student ambassadors who worked with Brakenhale students for the day commented on how knowledgeable and informed the students are about different pathways and are obviously keen to explore avenues and create opportunities for themselves. The questions our students asked were indicative of the research they have done in planning their future studies.

It was a very positive day and I am pleased our students had an opportunity to be a part of this. A huge thank you to the Aim Higher team at the University of Reading for facilitating this process, and well done to the students for making the most of it.

*Miss Douse, Head of Year 11*

## Year 11 Options Week & Science ISA



Week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> November is an important week for our Year 11 students. On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> they will sit their Science ISA for Additional Science and this will be followed by the first options week of the year where full days are spent in their optional subjects to support them with Controlled Assessments and Exam Preparation. The programme for the week is as follows:

- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November: Science ISA
- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November: Option A
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November: Option B
- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November: Option D
- Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November: Option C



*Mr Gibson, Deputy Headteacher*

## 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		

## Sixth Form PPE (Mock) Exams Timetable

Sixth Form PPE exams are also taking place next week.

	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov
Period 1	<b>Geography A2 (9)</b> 2 Hours <b>Drama A2 (3)</b> 1 Hour <b>French AS (2)</b> 2 Hours <b>PE A2 (4)</b> 2 Hours <b>Chemistry AS (7)</b> 1 Hour 30	<b>Travel and Tourism AS (17)</b> 1 Hour 30 <b>A2 (10)</b> 2 Hours <b>Biology A2 (1)</b> 1 Hour 30 <b>Computing AS Paper 1 (7)</b> 1 Hour 15	<b>Maths A2 (6) C3</b> 1 Hour 30 <b>AS (14) C1</b> 1 Hour 30  <b>English AS (8)</b> 1 Hour 30	<b>History AS Paper 2 (5)</b> 1 Hour 30  <b>Computing AS Paper 2 (7)</b> 1 Hour 15	<b>Catch Up Clashes Missed Exams</b>
Period 2					
Period 3	<b>Biology AS (7)</b> 1 Hour 30 <b>ICT A2 (3)</b> 2 Hour 30 <b>Music A2 (2)</b> 2 Hours <b>History A2 (5)</b> 2 Hours 30	<b>Physics AS (9)</b> 1 Hour 30 <b>Economics A2 (2)</b> 2 Hours <b>English A2 (11)</b> 2 Hours <b>History AS – Paper 1 (5)</b> 1 Hour 30	<b>Criminology Year 12 (30)</b> 1 Hour 30	<b>Economics AS (10)</b> 2 Hours <b>Psychology AS (16)</b> 1 Hour 30 <b>Psychology A2 (10)</b> 2 Hours	
Period 4					
Period 5	<b>Normal Lessons</b>				

**PE News**

**@brakenhalePE**



We have had another successful week within the PE department with a number of fixtures happening and we have welcomed over 100 students attending extra-curricular clubs this week.

As the weather starts to get colder please can we make sure students have the correct PE kit which can include a Brakenhale PE jumper and Brakenhale tracksuit bottoms. Coats and scarves are not to be worn in PE lessons. Students can also wear thermals or 'under armour' style tops in the correct colour underneath their PE shirts.

If your child is unable to take an active part in PE they must still bring in their kit and a note. Everyone is expected to get changed.

**Rugby**

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November the Year 8 boys played Sandhurst in an away fixture. All the boys put in 100% effort and were much improved from previous games and last year. Ricky Osei was man of the match as he worked extremely well and scored a fantastic try. Sadly Sandhurst beat us 12 -7. Unlucky boys and good luck for the next match.

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November the Year 9 boys played their re-scheduled match again Sandhurst. Brakenhale won 34-12. They worked extremely well as a team and played some fantastic rugby. Man of the match was awarded to Ellis Hopkins.

Keep up the good work boys!



**Netball**

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November Year 7 had their second match against Edgbarrow. The A Team had a really close match and it was nail biting right up until the last few minutes of the game. The lead kept changing and there was some fantastic play, however Edgbarrow had the better of us in the last quarter and beat us 10-7. Player of the match was Ella Benson.

The B team played extremely well and they improved throughout the match. They had some good play and never gave up which is brilliant. The score was 17-2 to Edgbarrow with player of the match going to Brooke for the second time.



**Extra Curricular clubs:** This Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> November, we had to cancel all clubs due to staff training. So next Thursday it will be the X side (BRAK) who have priority with trampolining. If however there are enough spaces the Y side can join us.

Year 8 and 9 Netball against Garth will have a full match report next week along with Cross Country Relays.

**Fixtures for the Week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> November**

<p><b>Tuesday</b> 15<sup>th</sup> November</p>	<p>Year 10 ESFA National Cup 3<sup>rd</sup> Round v Richard Challoner School</p>	Home
	<p>Year 10 and 11 Netball v Garth</p>	Home
	<p>6<sup>th</sup> Form County Cup Football v Edgbarrow</p>	Away
<p><b>Wednesday</b> 16<sup>th</sup> November</p>	<p>Year 9 Rugby v Garth</p>	Home
	<p>Year 7 and mixed 10/11 Netball v EP</p>	Home

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

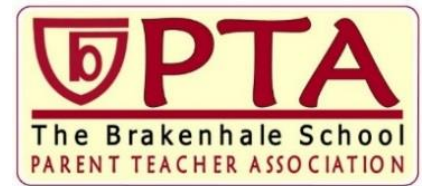
## PTA

### PTA Upcoming Events:

PTA Unwanted Clothes Collection up until Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November

Christmas Market: Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November

PTA Meeting: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December



### Bag2School Clothes and Accessories RECYCLING

We are once again collecting old clothes, shoes and accessories to help raise money for the school and students. Sort out all your old and unwanted and help us raise more money. Last year we collected over £200 for the school just by everyone sending in unwanted clothing.

Bag2School bags are available from school, please bring donations to main reception until Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November. You can also bring your donations in a plain bin liner or other bag.

We welcome clean clothes, paired shoes, handbags/bags, hats, scarves and ties, jewellery, belts and soft toys. We have also been informed that household linen, towels, curtains and bed linen (duvet covers, sheets, pillow cases) are now also accepted.

Unfortunately we cannot accept duvets/blankets, pillows/cushions, carpets/rugs, or school uniform/corporate clothing.

A full list of accepted and non accepted items are available on the Bag2School website:

<http://uk.bag2school.com/what-we-collect>



### Christmas Market - Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November

Our exciting annual Christmas Market will be taking place on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November.

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

If you are interested in running a stall, or know someone who would like to be there, please contact the school.

## Future Diary Dates

Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	<b>Start of Year 9 Internal Exams</b>
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>PTA Christmas Market</b>
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*