



Dear Parents/Carers

We have had a very positive start to this first week of the final half-term this academic year. Today Year 11 officially started their study leave after a very intensive few weeks including working in school across half-term. My thanks go to staff and parents for their continued support of Year 11.

We have facilitated workshops this week for Year 8 students focusing on drug awareness and we have a number of PSHE activities lined up for this half-term. Parental feedback has been very important in choosing the workshops. Finally, please can I ask you to read the message regarding Summer Uniform regulations below as this will apply from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June.

Kind regards

Jane Coley  
Headteacher

#challengeforall

## School Uniform during the Summer Term

In light of the summer we have made the decision that students can attend school without their ties and blazers for the remainder of the summer term. Top buttons may be undone but all other school uniform regulations apply including shirts tucked in and school bags.

Could we also please remind students to bring in water bottles. This is especially essential for rehydration after PE lessons. Thank you!!

## Book Look Weeks

Parents have been telling the school that they do not know about the quality of marking or what or how their child is progressing in a subject so during Book Look weeks exercise books/folders are sent home with students for parents to see how they are getting on in their studies.

Could we please ask that parents and students ensure that they bring their books back to into school.

Book Look Weeks for subsequent year groups will be as follows:

- Year 9 Book Look Week: Week beginning Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June
- Year 10 Book Look Week: Week beginning Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July



*Miss Baveystock, Assistant Headteacher*

## Residential Trips

We are really excited about our upcoming adventure weekends for Years 7, 8 and 9 this term.

Over the weekend of 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> June, **Year 7** students have the exciting opportunity of going on an adventure weekend to Liddington, Swindon, staying at an Activity Centre. **Year 8** students will have the same opportunity over the weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> July.



Some of the activities available at Liddington are Abseiling, Archery, Canoeing, Climbing, Crate Challenge, Fencing, Jacob's Ladder, Low Level Ropes Course, Mountain Biking, Nature Trail, Quad Biking, Raft Building, Sports and Team Games, Treetop Study Trail, Tunnel Trail, Vertical Challenge and Zip Wire.

For **Year 9**, students have been offered the opportunity to go on a Bushcraft trip at Hatfield House on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> July. This adventure combines bushcraft, camping and wilderness cookery.

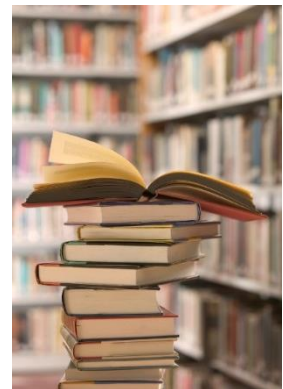


## End of Year Exams

Please note that there will be no end of year exams for Years 7, 8 and 9 this year as students have been thoroughly assessed throughout the year. The current Year 8 will have exams in November to help inform the options process.

End of year exams for Year 10 students will be starting on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June for ten days. The exam timetable will be issued to students and parents shortly.

*Mr Thomas, Assistant Headteacher*



## Alternative Curriculum Days

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July will be our Alternative Curriculum Day this year and the year groups are looking forward to their respective trips. This is an important opportunity for the students to celebrate the achievements during this year. Letters have been sent out with all the details.

Please make sure students are prepared for the weather – sun screen, hats and water if it is hot, and a waterproof coat or change of clothes if they wish to go on any water rides!

Students should take a packed lunch as queues are often very long, and students who are entitled to a free school meal will be provided with a packed lunch.

### Year 7

Legoland



9.30am to 4.30pm

### Year 8

Chessington



9.00am to 5.15pm

### Year 9

Thorpe Park



9.15am to 4.45pm

### Year 10

Thorpe Park



9.15am to 4.45pm

## Coffee Mornings

We have been running coffee mornings this year for parents to drop in and meet with support staff and other parents to discuss all aspects of parenting a teenager.

Our next coffee morning is on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June between 9.30am and 11am so please join us.

Please contact Tracey Gosling if you would like any further information.

*Mrs Tracey Gosling, Family Support Adviser*

[tgosling@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:tgosling@brakenhale.co.uk)



**Coffee Mornings**  
at The Brakenhale School

*Coffee and cake provided!*

Please drop in to join us any time between 9.30 and 11am on the date below to meet with support staff and other parents, to discuss all aspects of parenting a teenager. There will be activities for younger children so please feel free to bring them along.

Please contact Tracey Gosling if you have any questions

**Next Date:**  
**Friday 17th June**  
**9.30 to 11am**

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

The Brakenhale School  
Rectory Lane  
Bracknell  
Berkshire  
RG12 7BA  
01344 423041  
[tgosling@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:tgosling@brakenhale.co.uk)

High Expectations and Challenge for All

## Maths Challenge



Students at Brakenhale achieved two gold, one silver and seven bronze certificates in this year's UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. Across the country over 250,000 students take part with approximately the top 6% receiving a gold certificate, the next 13% receiving silver and the next 21% being awarded bronze.

The highest achieving students are invited to take part in the Junior Maths Kangaroo Challenge. This year we are extremely proud to have one student, Nathan Skipper in Year 8, who qualified for the Junior Maths Kangaroo. This is a fantastic achievement as only the top 2% of the country qualify for this."

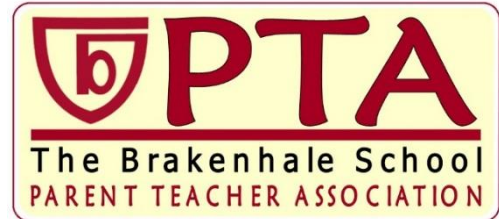
The Junior Challenge is aimed at students in Year 8 and below and the paper, which is sat in school and marked by the UKMT, contains 25 multiple choice questions. Of these, the first 15 are more accessible whilst the final 10 will provide more food for thought.

*Mr Dean, Head of Maths*

## PTA

### PTA Upcoming Events:

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June: June PTA meeting  
 Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June: PTA Race Night  
 Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July: July PTA meeting



### Next Event:

Thank you to everyone for their continued support for the PTA this year. We are really looking forward to our exciting end of year event, which is the **Race Night**, on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2016**. Tickets are available through the school or the PTA. We look forward to you joining us.

There will be a professional tote, the ticket price will include a BBQ-style dinner and there will be a cash bar. There will also be an opportunity on the evening to buy tickets to win two club enclosure tickets to a Royal Windsor racing event this season. The PTA would really appreciate your support so please try to get a group of family or friends to come along to the event to raise some money for the school.

The PTA will also be running a summer raffle and tickets will be on sale from next week, this will be drawn on the Race Night evening so please make sure you purchase your tickets, available from main reception or through tutors. Prizes include Garden Vouchers courtesy of Syngenta, tickets to 'Be Amazed' at the Lookout, Ice Skating tickets from John Nike, wine and chocolates among others. You have to be in it to win it!

Letters have been sent home via schoolcomms or you can access a copy from the school website [here](#).

We do hope that you will support the school and come to our next exciting evening.

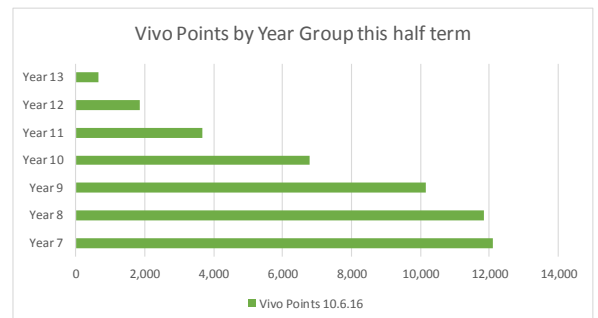
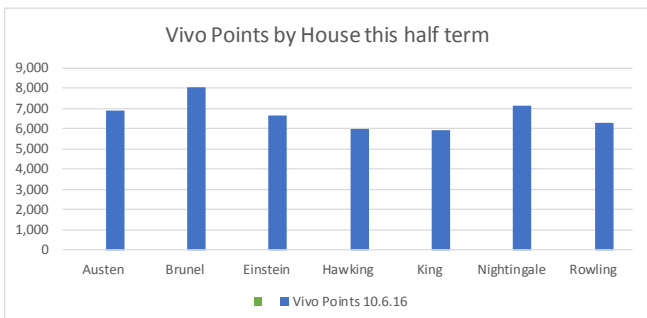
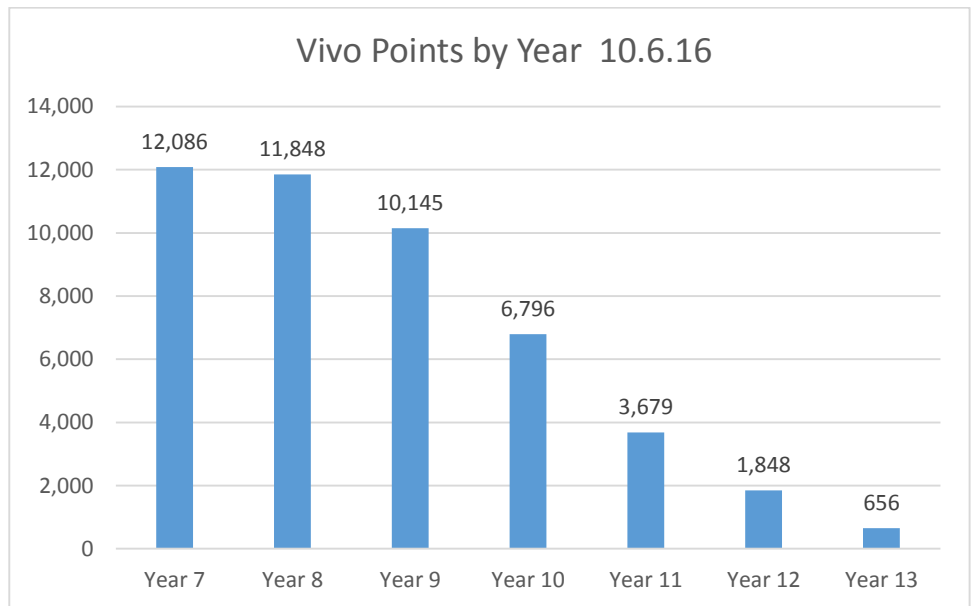
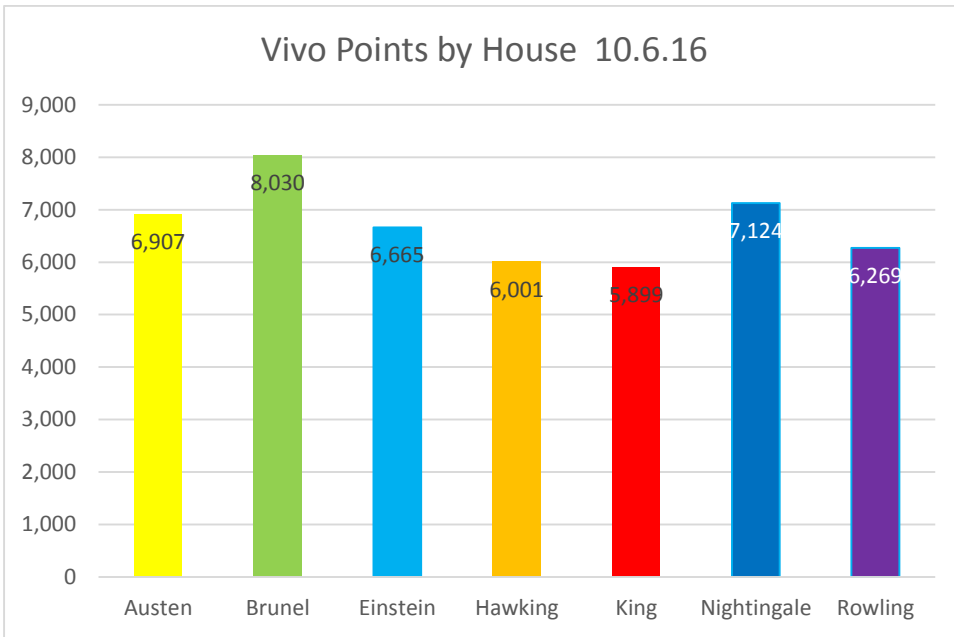
**NEXT EVENT**  
 The Brakenhale School

**RACE NIGHT**  
 Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2016  
 at The Brakenhale School

Doors open at 7.00pm,  
 First race at 7.30pm  
 Professional Tote, Raffle,  
 Cash Bar, Dinner (included)  
 Children welcome, entry by ticket only  
 Tickets £7.50 Adults (16+)  
 £5 Children (Under 16)  
 £22 Family (2 & 2)  
 available through the school or the PTA

# Vivo Rewards

Total points by House and by Year group up to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June, together with a comparison for this half term.



## Diary Dates

15 <sup>th</sup> to 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Catering Practical exams
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Start of Year 10 end of year exams
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 7 Residential trip
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	PTA Race Night, 7pm for 7.30pm
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Sixth Form Transition days
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 11 Leavers' Assembly, 9.30am
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 11 Prom
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> to Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 8 Residential trip
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Transition days
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Transition Information Evening
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Awards Evening
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Coffee Morning, 9.30am
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> & Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 9 Residential trip
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Alternative Curriculum day

### Term Dates

For a full list of dates please see our calendar page on the website.

Bracknell Forest term dates can be found on their website:

<http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schooltermandholidaydates>

*Summer Half Term:*  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2016

*Inset Days:*  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>, Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016  
  
*Summer Holiday:*  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016  
*(Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd September are Inset Days)*

*Autumn Term:*  
Starts on Monday 5<sup>th</sup>  
September 2016

Brakenhale School, Rectory Lane, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 7BA

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