



Dear Parents/Carers

All of our GCSE and A level exams have now started in earnest. The students have been working extremely hard to reach this point and we wish them all the very best in the weeks ahead. Staff have been running after school revision and weekend sessions to support students. Next week the Maths department are holding revision classes until 7.30pm for any last minute support that is needed. The bananas, flapjacks and water have been arriving by the box load to make sure that students have eaten enough to get them through the examination itself. Our anxiety specialist has been on hand this week running more sessions for students who need extra help in developing calming strategies. It really is a #teambrokenhale effort!

On the same 'team note sentiment' a huge thankyou to everyone who turned out to support the Bracknell half marathon and a special mention to Mr Hartley, Mr Thomas and Mr Jackson Sankey who ran the race!!

This week we successfully appointed three very high calibre staff to join us in September. Ms Ioannidis will join the English department, Mr Hilton who will be joining us as a Humanities teacher and Head of Year and Mrs Faluyi who will join the Art department. At a time when recruitment nationally is in a very difficult position we are extremely lucky to be able to attract, retain and recruit specialist experienced teachers. In addition we have also made some internal appointments with Mrs Raby and Miss Turner taking on Assistant Head of Year positions from September.

Drab comments and action taken this week include:

- 'We don't have enough time for lunch and break.'

We do recognise that timings are tight and we have now developed a plan to offer a longer break and lunch period as soon as the examinations are over.

- "There is not enough space to move outside through the new makeshift corridor down the steps towards the courts"

I absolutely recognise this and as a result I met with the builders on Tuesday and today they have reorganised some fencing and gates to create a new additional walkway behind the dance studio running parallel to the car park"

Please do continue to feedback both drab and fab comments as it helps us to improve

Staff member of the week goes to Miss Loj. Some of the comments include:

'For being fab!'

'She makes or lessons really engaging and it must take her a lot of time we shouldn't ever take for granted.'

Our students of the week are:

Hope Jones Year 9 and Rosie Pearce Year 10 for their continued perseverance despite having some difficult health issues. We are very proud of you.

Our motivational quote for next week is 'It always seems impossible until it's done.'

Next week we are holding a meeting on Wednesday 23rd May to discuss the Isle of Wight trip so if your child is involved please come along to the meeting.

Friday will be the last day before half term and a much needed rest. Please can you remind your children to stay away from the site unless they are coming in for revision sessions. If they are attending revision sessions they must stay outside of all building fences that have been erected for the safety of the staff and students.

Hope you all enjoy the weekend and the Royal Wedding and/or FA cup final!

Best wishes

Jane Coley, Headteacher

What's on next week

Wednesday 23 rd May	Isle of Wight meeting, 6.30pm
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Year 11 Half Term Revision Sessions

The following sessions will be running over half term. The exams will be in full swing and these booster sessions will really help students prepare for the examinations after half term.

Date	Time	Subject	Room
Tuesday 29 th May	All Day	Geography with Mr Mullett, Mr Cooper and Miss Byers	G01/G02/G03
Wednesday 30 th May	10am – 1pm	English with Miss Cresswell for those aiming for grades 7/8/9	C14
	10am – 1pm	Maths with Mr Dean for those aiming at grades 4-5	SF14
	1.30pm – 4pm	Maths with Mr Dean for those aiming at grades 7/8/9	SF14
Thursday 31 st May	10am – 1pm	English with Mr Anderson targeting grades 4/5/6	C23
	All Day	Music with Mr Duffy	C01
Friday 1 st June	9am – 12pm	GCSE Business with Miss Morgan and Mr Bell	B15/B16
	1pm – 4pm	GCSE Economics with Miss Morgan	B15
	1pm – 4pm	BTEC Business with Mr Bell	B16
	10am – 2pm	Maths with Mr Hicks	SF11
Saturday 2 nd June	9am – 12pm	History with Mr Hartley and Mr Benson (open to all students)	G01/CR3

Extra-Curricular Dance

Extra Curricular Dance Timetable


Starting from Monday the 4th of June

End of Year Dance Show on Monday the 9th of July

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Break time	Open for rehearsals	Year 10 -13 rehearsals	Open for rehearsals	Open for rehearsals	Year 10 -13 rehearsals
Lunch time	Open for rehearsals	Year 10 -13 rehearsals	DARK MATTER	Open for rehearsals	Year 10 -13 rehearsals
After School 3:05 onwards	AURORA Dance Company (JNS) Kiera Hopkins Open to Year 8	DARK MATTER Dance Company (MS) Miss Raby Year 8 Boys Year 7 Boys Group (JNS) Miss Haley Open to Year 7 boys	FREE FALL Dance Company (MS) Miss Haley Year 9 -13 Girls group Contemporary piece	FREE FALL Dance Company (MS) Miss Haley Year 9 -13 Girls group Jazz piece	The Mini's (MS) Jess Payne & Miss Haley Open to Year 7

ESTEEM

MENTAL
HEALTH ISSUES
AFFECT US ALL



Managing feelings, emotions and mental wellbeing can be challenging for anyone. So, whether you are up, down or going round and round, why not come and meet up for a chat about how you're feeling; doing, or anything else you want to share.

Talk is cheap, but the rewards are priceless!

**EVERY THURSDAY
LUNCHTIMES
LS1**

BE IN YOUR MATE'S CORNER

1 in 10 young people will experience a mental health problem this year. If your mate's acting differently, step in.

- 1 Text, call, reach out
- 2 Listen, don't judge
- 3 Do something together

time-to-change.org.uk
##inyourcorner

time to change
it's end mental health discrimination



Partners by:
Department of Health, CBAMC RELIEF, Lottery Funded, Mind, and Beyond Friends.

Spare Uniform, Lost Property and Water Bottles

Donating Old/Spare Uniform

Year 11 students will be having their leaver's assembly at the end of June and as we always find old uniform useful we would be extremely grateful for any items parents would like to donate, for example; blazers, skirts, ties and house badges. Equally, if your child has outgrown their uniform and there are no siblings to pass it on to, please consider bringing it into us. This really does make a difference to the school and we thank you in advance for any donations.



Lost Property

We are again accumulating a large quantity of lost property, including uniform, coats, hoodies, jewellery, keys and water bottles.

Don't forget that if your items are named then we can easily return them to their owner.

Water Bottles

With the warmer weather could we please remind you that students need to have a NAMED re-usable water bottle. We are unable to provide single use cups for water during the hot weather for students. Any lost or unclaimed bottles will be taken to the Head of Year Office, along with all lost property.

Many Thanks

Mrs McCrorie, Curriculum Support Assistant



Clothes Recycling

Please note that we are currently unable to take in clothes for recycling due to the rebuild and lack of space to store them.

Bracknell Lexicon Half Marathon

A huge thank you to everyone who turned out last Sunday to support the Bracknell Half- Marathon, this included members of the PTA, staff, governors, students and parents.



The 1200 runners were well distributed from 9.30 to 11.30 and many cups of water and sponges were handed out. The runners included Mr H, Mr T, Mr J, parents and past students, who were sent on their way from our water station with very loud cheers.

Miss Manisier, on behalf of Brakenhale PTA



Camera Club News

The members of Camera Club continue to delight and amaze me with their wonderful photographs. This week I have two great examples of photographic skills, both from Year 7 students. Sandia L (7B) has created a fantastic example of Forced Perspective with her 'house-stomping foot' and Edward B (7B) rose to the challenge of photographing squirrels!

This week's challenge has students photographing portraits in a beautiful location so please be prepared to model!

Finally, can I remind all students that Camera Club meets every Monday at lunchtime in B17 and all years are welcome. I will soon be starting to organise my photography troupe for Sports Day and Camera Club members will be top of that list!

Miss T Wilhelmy, Photography Teacher



Health Zone

Please remember that our Uniform Expectations say that one small plain gold or silver ear stud in the lower ear-lobe only is allowed (the school cannot accept responsibility for any jewellery worn or brought into school). Please make sure all other jewellery is left at home. Larger, spiked or hooped earrings or expander-hole earrings are not allowed. Students are not allowed to wear more than one earring in each ear.

Tongue studs, eyebrow, nose, lip and facial piercings are not allowed at school. Students will be required to remove the facial jewellery and refusal to remove the jewellery may result in internal exclusion.

Ms Ball, Health Coordinator

I think my piercing is infected – what should I do?

It is normal for the site of a piercing to be red and tender for a few weeks. Signs of infection to look out for are:

- Red and swollen skin around the piercing
- Pain or tenderness when touching the area
- Yellow or green discharge coming from the piercing
- A high temperature (fever)

Get medical advice immediately if you think your piercing may be infected. A delay in treatment can result in a serious infection.

Contact your GP, call NHS 111 or go to a minor injuries unit or walk-in centre.

If you decide to get your ears or another part of your body pierced, make sure you go to a licensed body piercing shop or piercer.


In the UK licensed piercers work under strict hygiene and safety standards which mean the risk of infections is very low. Piercing by anyone outside of these licensed premises increases the risk of infection.

Staff in registered piercing premises keep their hands and environment clean. This means the risk of introducing germs from the environment is very low.

They always use sterile, single-use disposable needles and equipment, meaning that the risk of passing on viruses that are carried in the blood, such as hepatitis and HIV, is almost non-existent.

When choosing a piercer, make sure they've got a piercing license. All professional piercers must obtain a license from their local council in order to carry out piercings. The license should be clearly and prominently displayed on their premises and means they meet the required safety and hygiene standards.

For more information about piercing see NHS Choices
nhs.uk/conditions/body-piercing



Piercings: the risks

Self-piercing

Doing your own piercing is dangerous and should be avoided. Without the right equipment, there's a greater risk of infection and scarring.

Why is self-piercing unsafe?

- The main risk of any piercing is infection. When piercing the body the skin is broken increasing the risk of germs getting into your blood stream and causing infections.
- Bacterial infection is the main risk associated with piercings.
- An abscess (build-up of pus) may form around the piercing site which, if left untreated, may need to be surgically drained and can leave a scar.
- In rare cases, an infection could lead to blood poisoning (sepsis) or toxic shock syndrome, which can be very serious. Blood poisoning can also occur without an abscess.
- Bleeding, particularly in areas of the body with a lot of blood vessels, such as the tongue
- Swelling of the skin around the piercing
- Scarring – some people may develop keloid scars (a type of oversized scar)



What are the risks of sharing needles for piercing?

Once someone has used a needle, viruses in their blood may contaminate it. Infections that used needles can pass on to other people include hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV.

These are serious and potentially life threatening illnesses and really not worth the risk.

What should I do if I have had a piercing using a shared needle outside of a licensed piercing?

Tell a teacher or parent or contact your GP, call NHS 111 or go to a minor injuries unit or walk-in centre.

You will need to see a health professional. Following a risk assessment you may not need any treatment.

However, if a risk has been identified depending on the risk you may need:

- antibiotic treatment
- vaccination course against hepatitis B
- urgent treatment to prevent HIV

PE News

PE EXTRA CURRICULAR

MONDAYS - STAFF MEETINGS

TUESDAY
 ROUNDERS - ALL YEARS - LRU + LWI
 ATHLETICS - ALL YEARS - WYE + JBO + CMY



WEDNESDAY
 CRICKET - YEAR 7 AND 8 - RBE
 CRICKET - YEAR 9 + 10 - CMY
 FITNESS INDUCTIONS - WYE



THURSDAY
 SOFTBALL - ALL YEARS - JBO
 ATHLETICS - ALL YEARS - LRU + RBE + LWI
 TENNIS - ALL YEARS - WYE



@BRAKENHALEPE

Feedback Initiative

Electronic submission: [Fab](#) [Drab](#) [Staff Member of the Week](#)

We would encourage you to submit your views and feedback at anytime, we look forward to hearing from you regularly.

Ms Coley, Headteacher



Round-Up (3rd to 17th May)

You think we are doing great at the following things at Brakenhale:

- ✓ Displaying everyone's achievements.
- ✓ The card that was sent home from teachers for Year 11 was such a lovely touch. It was such a positive thing which brought lots of smiles and made our daughter feel really proud of herself, huge confidence booster! Thank you.
- ✓ How approachable you all are and making the students and us as parents know we have somewhere to turn if needed during exams. Fantastic approach.
- ✓ We have time between period 1 & 2 and 4 & 5.

Activities, Clubs and Information

Mondays All Years

TEXTILES STUDIO

3.10 to 4pm in **CO6**

Starting 16th April

CALLING ALL YEAR 7S: SHAKESPEARE IN ACTION

- Check out my plays
- look at the trends I set in language
- Be part of a Shakespearean performance

Drama studio

- Wednesdays 3:15-4:15
- With Mrs Lewis
- Sign up on Wednesday 11th April

"We know what we are, but not what we may be"

STOP

A SUPPORTIVE PROGRAMME FOR PARENTS OF TEENS

STOP is an effective parenting course for parents and/or carers of young people aged 10 – 16. It is a 10-week step-by-step programme that runs for 2 hours per week. This course give parents a greater understanding of their young person and strategies to help manage situations which often occur during the 'teens'.

The next course starts on Friday 4th May 2018 for 10 weeks (not half-term)

At the Open Learning Centre:	At Brakenhale:
Friday 4 th May 9.30 to 11.00am	Friday 8 th June 9.30 to 11.30am
Friday 11 th May 9.30 to 11.30am	Friday 15 th June 9.30 to 11.30am
Friday 18 th May 9.30 to 11.30am	Friday 22 nd June 9.30 to 11.30am
Friday 25 th May 9.30 to 11.30am	Friday 29 th June 9.30 to 11.30am
	Friday 6 th July 9.30 to 11.30am
	Friday 13 th July 9.30 to 11.30am

This course is being run by Brakenhale together with the Bracknell Family Intervention Team (FIT), which means we can offer places free of charge (normally £720 per parent). However places are limited so to avoid disappointment contact us on 01344 464793 or email us at jmanisier@brakenhale.co.uk

ART CLUB

Do you want to experiment with new materials? Try out new techniques? Work on fun group projects? ART CLUB is FOR YOU!

Relaunch of Art Club: Thursday 22nd March 2018 3:05pm-4:05pm Year 7-11 and will continue each Thursday from this date.

Location: A05

Camera club

Do you like taking photographs? Do you want to be part of an elite photographic team? Then you should join CAMERA CLUB!

When? Monday June 18th 1.25pm - 1.55pm

Where? B17 (IT room by the stairs near Music)

What? Anyone is welcome from Year 7 to 11

Starts 12 March

The Brakenhale School

WEEK COMMENCING :- 30 APR, 21 MAY, 18 JUNE, 09 JULY

Week 3	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Hot Main Meal	British Farm Assured Lamb Burger	British Farm Assured Chicken Madras Curry	British Farm Assured Roast Gammon	British Farm Assured Pork Meat Balls	MSC (Marine Stewardship Council) Battered Fish/ Cumberland Sausages/Chicken Nuggets
Hot Vegetarian Meal	Vegetarian Burger	Chick Pea and Lentil Curry	Vegetarian Risotto	Vegetarian Moussaka	Veggie Pizza
Carbohydrate	Baked Spicy Wedges	Rice Naan Bread	Roast Potatoes	Penne Pasta Garlic Bread	Baked chips
Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Roasted Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Peas, Baked Beans or Salad
Hot Pudding	Syrup Sponge and Custard	Strawberry Ice Cream	Apple and Cinnamon Slice	Strawberry Jam Sponge	Double Chocolate Muffin

We have available every day

- Salad bar where you build your own salad
- Homemade bread

We use locally sourced ingredients when available and in season

All our menus are nutritionally analysed to ensure they meet and in most cases exceed The School Food Standards

Current Vacancies

We have the following exciting opportunities at Brakenhale. Please see the website for more details.

<http://brakenhale.co.uk/about/vacancies/>

- Head of PE
- Safeguarding Administrator
- Criminology, Law & Psychology Teacher
- Part time Art Teacher



We are currently seeking to recruit a number of Cleaning Operative to be based at our contracts in schools and local government buildings in Bracknell, Berkshire. The successful Cleaning Operatives will be required to work with other team members to ensure our clients premises are cleaned to the highest standard.

There are a variety of cleaning shifts available – from 6am – 8am and between 3.30pm – 8.00pm

The key responsibilities for the Cleaning Operative will include:

- Ensure that our clients premises are cleaned to a high standard.
- Vacuuming, dusting and mopping
- Emptying bins and removing litter
- Any other reasonable task requested by a member of the supervisory/management team

The successful applicant will have:

- Previous experience in a customer facing cleaning role
- Awareness of health and safety issues
- Ability to work unsupervised

A DBS certificate is required for this position. Hourly Rate - £8.00 per hour.

This represents a great opportunity to join a fast-growing business and develop your experience further. So, if you would like to join our rapidly expanding team and be part of their future success then apply today.

For further information and an early interview - Please contact Jackie on 07562 989015.

Future Diary Dates

Tuesday 12th June

PTA Meeting, 7pm

Easy Fundraising!

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



Term Dates 2017-18

SUMMER TERM 2018

Term dates for students:

Monday 16th April to 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 Tuesday 4th September

(Inset Days: Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th September)

Term Dates 2018-19

AUTUMN TERM 2018

Term dates for students:

(Inset Days: Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th September)

Wednesday 5th September to Thursday 20th December

Autumn Half Term – Monday 22nd to Friday 26th October)

(Inset Day: Friday 21st December)

Christmas Holiday for students – Friday 21st December to Friday 4th January 2019

SPRING TERM 2019

Term dates for students:

Monday 7th January to Friday 5th April

Spring Half Term – Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February)

Spring Holiday for students – Monday 8th April to Monday 22nd April

(Good Friday 19th April, Easter Monday 22nd April)

SUMMER TERM 2019

Term dates for students:

Tuesday 23rd April to Friday 19th July

(Inset Days: Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July)

Summer Half Term – Monday 27th to Friday 31st May)

Last day of Summer Term for students – Friday 19th July

Bracknell Forest term dates can be found on their website:

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

#challengeforall

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High Expectations and Challenge for All