

# Brakenhale School Parent News

11<sup>th</sup> May 2018



Dear Parents/Carers

It may only have been a four day week, however, it has still been incredibly busy. Year 10 have been preparing in earnest for their first GCSE exam in Religious Studies which is next week, along with BTEC Music. Year 11, 12 and 13 have spent the week revising and completing examinations in the hall under test conditions to make sure that when they begin the real examinations next week they are as prepared as they can possibly be.

On Thursday evening, we had Year 7 parents evening and had an exceptional turn out! Thank you to all those parents who attended and for those who were unable to attend we will hopefully speak to you over the coming weeks. A big thank you to all staff for their support in ensuring this evening ran smoothly.

This morning a number of members of the armed forces spoke to Year 10 and Post 16 students about careers opportunities in the Army. Across the next few weeks we will be hosting a number of careers events in order to make sure that our students are getting the very best advice for their futures.

We have successfully appointed a new Head of Sixth Form this week, and I am very pleased to announce that Mr Duffy will be taking over this role from September.

Two members of staff have been showcasing their talents outside of school with great results. Miss Gillett has been chosen to produce all the art work for the Oxford-based outlets of the Brewdog Brewery chain. A write up can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1829353807121136/>

Mrs Powell and her singing group 'Avenue' performed at Reading Station last weekend and raised hundreds of pounds for Daisy's Dream. What a great example of giving up your own time to help others.

Drab comments and action taken this week include:

'I am not always sure how the grade report translates into actual predictions for examination results. I would like some more explanation.'

*We are going to set up in the summer term some parent forums to hear exactly what data would be of use and at the start of next term we will also be holding some parent information evenings regarding grade predictions.*

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

Staff member of the week goes to Mrs Daniels who was nominated for her continued support of the Duke of Edinburgh students as well as all the work that she does in our learning resource centre.

Our students of the week are:

Ella Baveystock in Year 10 for her continued amazing achievements as part of the South of England golf squad.

Dani Bembenek in Year 10, who took part in the international cheerleading finals in America.

Our motivational quote for next week is 'The past cannot be changed. The future is yet in your power.'

Best wishes

*Jane Coley, Headteacher*

## What's on next week

Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Lexicon Bracknell Half Marathon Water Station – volunteers welcome</b>
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Start of external exams</b>

Follow us on our website, Facebook and Twitter too...



## Revised School Day during Exam Period

For the remainder of the exam period we have decided to bring the lunch period forward in order to accommodate the start of afternoon exams. Please find the revised timings below:

### The School Day: During Exam Period

Arrive in School	8:30
Morning Registration/Assembly	8:40 – 9:00
Period 1	9:00 – 10:00
Travel Time	10:00 – 10:05
Period 2	10:05 – 11:05
Break	11:05 – 11:25
Period 3	11:25 – 12:25
Lunch	12:25 – 12:55
Afternoon Registration	12:55 – 1:00
Period 4	1:00 – 2:00
Travel Time	2:00 – 2:05
Period 5	2:05 – 3:05
Extra-Curricular Activities	3:05 +

## Brakenhale Rebuild



### We need your help to raise £49,485 - by September 2019!!!!

At last it seems like the weather may be improving and I'm sure you will want to be outside and be active.

I have noticed that there are quite a few cycling events throughout the rest of this year that I ask you to look at <https://www.ukcyclingevents.co.uk/events/#region=SouthEast> and consider whether you would take part, with the aim of raising money for the new build project.

Let me know of other activities you may be thinking of and any support you need from us.

Karen Roche, Chair of the governing body

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



The trenches around the site are getting bigger

## Bracknell Lexicon Half Marathon

A quick reminder that the 2018 Lexicon Bracknell Half Marathon takes place this weekend on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018. This year is the first year that the half-marathon will start and finish at the Lexicon. This will mean that we need additional helpers for a slightly longer time this year: a few for set up and volunteers to Marshal and hand out water from 8.45 to 11.00am. It is always a lovely community event, if you have helped in previous years please come along and help us again this year. If not, students and parents, you would be most welcome to come along and help hand out water/sponges, it is great fun.

It would be really helpful for the organisation of the day if you could let me know if you intend to help by [completing our online form](#), emailing me on [jmanisier@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:jmanisier@brakenhale.co.uk) or calling and leaving a message with your name and the number of helpers coming with you on my direct line 01344 464793.

Here are some of the changes to previous years:

We are now water station 5, this is between miles 8 and 9. We have been asked to be set up and be ready by 8.30am and at our stations by 9.00am. The last runners should be through by 11am.

In addition to volunteers for the water station that will be outside the Coningsby Gate we will need Marshals for:

- 64: the underpass at Ingleton
- 65: the underpass at the Downside Hotel
- 66: the Bus link from Crowthorne Road to Downshire Way
- 67: Brakenhale water station
- 68: the footpaths at the rear of KFC
- 69: the footpath/cycle way south of the underpass

If you would specifically like to volunteer to Marshal at one of these points please let me know.

The runners will be running in an anti-clockwise direction, so will be approaching our marshal points/water station from the opposite direction to previous years, for us they will be approaching from Rectory Lane and heading towards the Sports Centre. They are using much of last year's course but there are some changes which means that the times at which the runners reach our point will also be different.

This year it is even more important that Marshals are in place and that drink stations are ready to go in plenty of time, by 9.00 am at the very latest. There will be official course marshals driving round to check all is in place ready to go.

This year all marshals will be issued with a fluorescent tabard which they should wear during the race (we have to return these). There will also be a limited stock of souvenir T Shirts available which you can keep.

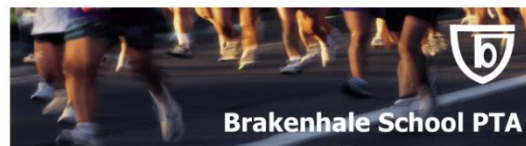
I look forward to hearing from you.

*Jo Manisier, on behalf of Brakenhale PTA*

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

01344 423041 (main reception)

01344 464793 (direct dial)



**Bracknell Half Marathon**  
**WATER STATION**  
**Volunteers Needed**  
**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018**  
**8.45 - 11.00am**

Brakenhale is once again responsible for a Water Station and associated Marshal Points in the popular Lexicon Bracknell Half Marathon.

This year is the first year that the half-marathon will start and finish at the Lexicon. This will mean that we need additional helpers for a slightly longer time this year: a few for set up and volunteers to Marshal and hand out water from 8.45 to 11.00am

It is always a lovely community event, if you have helped in previous years please come along and help us again this year. If not, students and parents you would be most welcome to come along and help hand out water/sponges, it is great fun.

Thank you for your support.

It would be really helpful for organisation of the day if you could let us know if you intend to help by completing our on-line form, emailing Miss Manisier on [jmanisier@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:jmanisier@brakenhale.co.uk) or calling and leaving a message with your name and the number of helpers coming with you on her direct line 01344 464793.



## PTA Summer Raffle

We will be running a raffle before half term. Please support the PTA and send in money with your child to purchase the raffle tickets. All proceeds go directly back into supporting the school. The price is £1 for a strip of 5 tickets and there will be a large sweet bag prize and a certificate for the 5 tutor groups or individual students who sell the most tickets.

Prizes include a large Cleaning Hamper and wine, foot-massager, Magner's gift pack, £20 National garden voucher and a box of chocolates.



## Bringing the Bard to Brakenhale

Not content with recognising the birthday of William Shakespeare last week with the fantastic efforts of the Year 7 students, this week saw a visit to Brakenhale from The Globe Players to perform the play Macbeth to the Year 10 cohort who are currently studying this tragedy as part of their GCSE Literature GCSE.

The Globe Players are a professional acting troop who specialise in 'creat[ing] an accessible and highly enjoyable journey through Shakespeare's plays. The use of narration and a lively performance style ensure understanding from the children, without having to compromise on the language' and certainly our students commented that the experience had hugely added to their understanding and engagement with the plot and characters.

All Year 10 students were able to access this opportunity to experience being an audience member to a Shakespeare production, complete with the stage arranged similarly, to how it might have been during the 16<sup>th</sup> Century.

The English department would like to thank and highlight the wonderful work done by our PTA, with your support, who funded this event and consequently protected the budget of the department which can now still be put to use across all year groups.

*Mrs Cresswell, Head of English & Media*



## Duke of Edinburgh Award

Last weekend the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award participants in Year 9 and 10 went out on their practice expedition.

The students undertook a gruelling 2 day hike and a night's camping. For some this was their first experience of camping; but all were amazing. The students were expected to carry all of their kit, equipment, clothes, food and sleeping gear.

Last term they had a training day with BXM Expeditions. The expedition company sent a team of leaders to train the groups to work together as a team to plan and execute their walk. The students were then remotely supervised in their groups and all completed the expedition successfully.

It was a challenge for the students and there were a lot of sore feet, shoulders and hips. It was also very entertaining to watch the students discover how to pitch the company's tents. All were brilliantly behaved, extremely self-disciplined, showed tremendous resilience and deserve to feel incredibly proud of their achievement. Mrs Daniels and I look forward to supporting them through their assessed expedition in the summer.



*Mr D Hicks, Team Leader*



## PE News

This week has been a busy week for the PE department with two teams spending the day at Surrey Sports Park and all of the extra-curricular clubs happening. Next week seem to be just as busy!

### U15 Boys Handball Regional Finals @ Surrey Sports Park, Guildford 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018

The U15 Boys took part in the Regional Finals this week at Surrey Sports Park in Guildford. Having won the County stage the boys qualified for the inaugural Regional finals representing Berkshire against schools from Hampshire, Buckinghamshire, Kent and Surrey.

The boys scored 14 goals during the tournament and narrowly missed out on a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish overall against some excellent opposition. Captain Ellis H scored 10 of Brakenhale's goals.

A great achievement and plenty of potential to build on for next year. Well done!

### U15 Girls Handball Regional Finals @ Surrey Sports Park, Guildford 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018

The U15 Girls also took part in the Regional Finals this week at Surrey Sports Park in Guildford. We were advanced to the regional finals as there were no district rounds. The girls played schools from Surrey, Hampshire, Kent and Buckinghamshire. They all played well and adapted to the game as the tournament progressed. The majority of the team had never played handball and had to get out of the mindset of correct footwork and pivoting and learn to deal with the contact, which for most of the girls came unnaturally. They all played and fought well.

Our goal scorers of the tournament were Miriam A, Maizie F and Sophie H. Player of the tournament for me was Tegan R who had some fantastic saves in goal! A great achievement and plenty of potential to build on for next year. Well done!

Students remember to look out for the handball club in September if you would like to be involved!

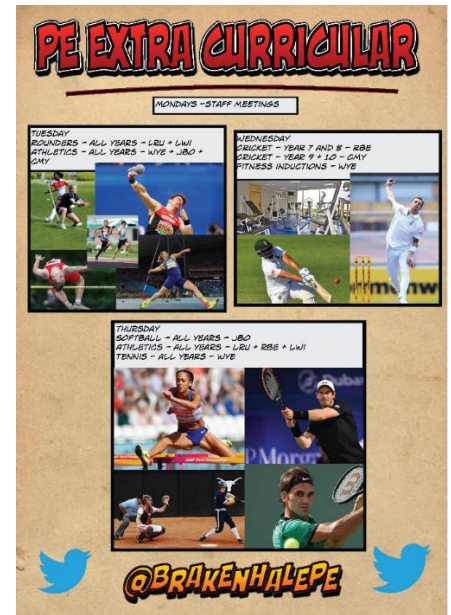
### District Athletics

We have District Athletics coming up so if your son/daughter would like to be invited they need to make sure they are coming to Athletics club on a Tuesday and Thursday. Please can you make sure they attend regularly and not a one off!

### Fixtures for Next Week

- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May - Year 7 and 8 Rounders @ Ranelagh
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May - Year 9 and 10 Rounders @ Brakenhale v Edgbarrow

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



## 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*

FAB



## Activities, Clubs and Information



**Monday's 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 11<sup>th</sup> April

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



### 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 gives parents a greater understanding of their young person and strategies to help manage situations which often occur during the 'teens'.

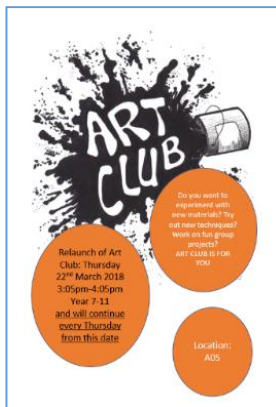


The next course starts on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018 for 10 weeks (not half-term)

**At the Open Learning Centre:**  
 Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May 9.30 to 11.00am  
 Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May 9.30 to 11.30am  
 Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May 9.30 to 11.30am  
 Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 9.30 to 11.30am

**At Brakenhale:**  
 Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June 9.30 to 11.30am  
 Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 9.30 to 11.30am  
 Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 9.30 to 11.30am  
 Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June 9.30 to 11.30am  
 Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July 9.30 to 11.30am  
 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:jmanisier@brakenhale.co.uk)

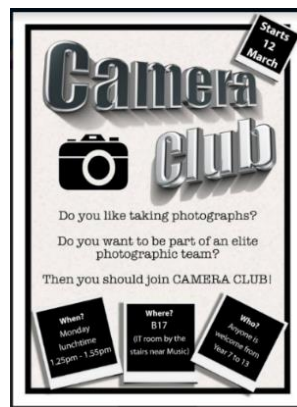


**ART CLUB**

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 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 3:05pm-4:05pm Year 7-11 and will continue every 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!

Starts 12 March

Where? Monday lunchtime (2:50pm - 3:55pm)

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

What happens to winners from Year 7 to 13

The Brakenhale School

WEEK COMMENCING :- 23 APR, 14 MAY, 11 JUNE, 02 JULY

Week 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Hot Main Meal	British Farm Assured Pork Sausage Ring	British Farm Assured Butter Chicken Curry	British Farm Assured Roast Chicken	British Farm Assured Beef Bolognese	MFC (Veggie) Reusable Oven Battered Fish/ Cumberland Sausages/Chicken Nuggets
Hot Vegetarian Meal	Macaroni Cheese Garlic Bread	Vegetable Biryani	Chilli Beans Casserole	Mexican Veggie Burrito	Cheese Omelette
Carbohydrate	Creamy Mashed Potato	Naan Bread Lemon Rice	Roast Potatoes	Penne Pasta	Baked chips
Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Peas, Baked Beans or Salad
Hot Pudding	Chocolate & Banana Cake	Orange Cake Custard	Drop Pancakes served with Maple Syrup	Carrot Cake and Custard	Fruit jelly

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/>

- Criminology, Law & Psychology Teacher
- Part time Art Teacher
- English Teacher
- Head of Year
- Part time Finance Officer



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

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May                      **Isle of Wight meeting, 6.30pm**  
 Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June                        **PTA Meeting, 7pm**

## Easy Fundraising!

Don't forget to shop through [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) to effortlessly help raise money for the school!



## Term Dates 2017-18

### SUMMER TERM 2018

Term dates for students:  
 Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July  
*Inset Day: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July*  
 Summer Half Term - Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June  
 Summer Holiday for students – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July to Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September  
*(Inset Days: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September)*

## Term Dates 2018-19

### AUTUMN TERM 2018

Term dates for students:  
*(Inset Days: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September)*  
 Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September to Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December  
 Autumn Half Term – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October)  
*(Inset Day: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December)*  
 Christmas Holiday for students – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2019

### SPRING TERM 2019

Term dates for students:  
 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April  
 Spring Half Term – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February)  
 Spring Holiday for students – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April to Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April  
 (Good Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April, Easter Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April)

### SUMMER TERM 2019

Term dates for students:  
 Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July  
*(Inset Days: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July)*  
 Summer Half Term – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May)  
 Last day of Summer Term for students – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July

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

**#challengeforall**

Brakenhale School, Rectory Lane, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 7BA  
 ☎ 01344 423041 ~ ✉ [mainreception@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:mainreception@brakenhale.co.uk) ~ 🌐 [www.brakenhale.co.uk](http://www.brakenhale.co.uk)

*High Expectations and Challenge for All*