



Dear Parents/Carers

Today is the start of the first Big Book Look week and we are encouraging all parents to view their children's books. Please do take the time to review your son or daughter's work; a questionnaire will be coming out to you early next week and I would really appreciate any feedback that you are able to give.

Our GCSE students have been continuing to work hard as their first exams begin, many have sat Art and Photography this week and as ever their positive attitude and determination is impressive. At the end of last week, our students again showed the school and themselves in an extremely positive light. Year 10 students visited Wellington College as part of a Maths programme and they were highly commended by the staff and by Mr O'Donoghue who accompanied them. Mr Hartley and Miss Wilhelmy took all of Year 12 to Bluecoat School in Reading for a university open event. Our students' approach and response was very impressive and again commented on by many staff.

Yesterday saw an amazing exhibition from a number of Year 7 English students showcased in the library. They had each designed a replica model of the Globe Theatre in London. Mrs Cresswell set the project and it is the fourth year that she has done so but the first year at Brakenhale. She commented that the quality of the work far exceeded anything she had seen before. Next week, we will display some photographs in Parent news – well done to everyone who took part, you all worked extremely hard.

Today we have hosted a dance workshop for our Post 16 students and some of our younger students also had the privilege of being able to watch the events. The quality of dance at Brakenhale is outstanding and much of this is down to the leadership of Miss Haley. This was again seen on Monday night with a dance showcase from our Key Stage 4 and Post 16 students.

This week our subject specific drab comments have been forwarded to the Heads of Department. If you would like personal feedback please do include your name on your comments. Whole school drab comments and the action we have taken include:

- The school planners are very flimsy and they get damaged within the first 2 weeks of term, they now look very tatty and not smart, the introduction of house colours is a good idea but perhaps a sturdier planner for next year.

This is a very fair point and one which we will look into. Currently the planners are issued termly but we need to consider if we look at this on a half termly basis and/or provide a plastic insert to protect them.

- The short lunch means my children do not have enough time to queue, eat, go to the toilet.

We will be reviewing the current timings this half term and making changes to ensure all students do have enough time for all the necessities at lunch time.

- Moving through the corridors is a big problem, especially the English and Maths block. Everyone is all squished together and noisy.

We do accept that currently moving around the building is more problematic. We have introduced a number of new one way systems which we believe will improve the situation. It is now about ensuring that all students adhere to these.

Student of the week this week goes to Roxie Sherratt whose concert band has got through to the final round of the Music for Youth festival. They are one of only three music centre bands nationally to make it this far, all the others are country level bands. They will be playing at the Symphony Hall in Birmingham on the 6th July after which, if they are successful, they could then go on to play at the Royal Albert Hall. Congratulations Roxie, we are all very proud of you!

Staff member of the week goes to: Mrs Higham - for dedicating enormous amounts of time to the graphics students to help them through their exams and in addition, to always be a support for any student in need, the quote that supports this is 'a huge thank you to Mrs Higham who is always there for me and all of our class. She gives up huge amounts of her time and always speaks to us in a way which helps us to understand.'

Motivational quote of the week for next week is: 'You don't have to be great to get started but you have to get started to be great.'

The PTA meeting took place on Wednesday, please can I remind all parents that you are welcome to attend these meetings and support our Parent/Teacher initiative. They raise valuable funds for us and we are hoping that they will raise much more in the future to support our new build.

I have received reports that some students are not crossing the road safely, please could you reinforce the message at home of how important road safety is.

This evening I will be attending the Pride of Bracknell awards along with Miss Gill and I hope to give you some feedback from this next week.

Best wishes

Jane Coley, Headteacher

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



What's on next week

Wednesday 2nd May

Parent Support Group, 1.30-3pm

Thursday 3rd May

Last day for bringing in Clothes to be recycled

Water Bottles

With the warmer weather hopefully coming back soon 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. We have already collected 5 unnamed re-usable water bottles from our first week back. 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

Globe Theatre Extravaganza

In the spirit of celebrating Shakespeare's birthday this week on the 23rd April, 1564, Year 7 students recreated the Globe Theatre in various formats and we held a display in the LRC. They all put in a tremendous effort and produced some spectacular results. There will be a full write up and some wonderful photos in next week's parent news.

Mrs Creswell, Head of English & Media



Parent Support Group
at Brakenhale

Wednesday 2nd May
1.30pm to 3pm

Please come and meet our Family Support Worker and other parents to discuss all aspects of living with teenagers. Refreshments will be provided.

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

Future Meeting Dates:
Wednesday 27th June ~ 9.30-11am

Brakenhale School
Rectory Lane
Bracknell
Berkshire
RG12 7BA
01344 423041
fgosling@brakenhale.co.uk

High Expectations and Challenge for All

Dance News

Choreography Sharing

Thank you to all the parents and students who supported the Choreography Sharing on Monday. The event showcased the examination work created by Years 10 to 13 with students performing from all year groups. It was a wonderful opportunity for our older students to share their work and receive feedback.

Tavaziva Dance

Our Year 12 and 13 students have been working intensively with Tavaziva Dance over two days to create a curtain raiser for their professional work Izindava at South Hill Park on Monday 30th April. Students have worked with artistic director Barwen Tavaziva to create the challenging work as part of their BTEC course. Barwen was highly impressed with the students, commenting "they are all so good!" within the first hour of meeting them.

Miss Haley, Head of Dance and Drama



Brakenhale Rebuild - update

The build work continues:



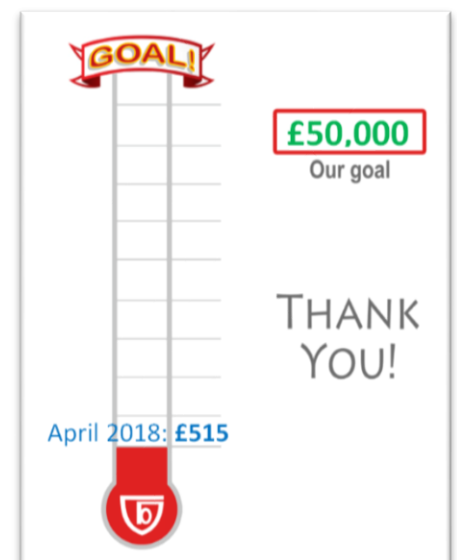
We need your help to raise £49,485 - by September 2019!!!!

You will notice a little red filling of our thermometer. Thanks to you all for supporting the Waitrose green disk scheme which has added £215 and to our two runners in Year 8 who raised £300.

I am also very grateful to those of you who are planning to support us and have e-mailed me at the address below to discuss. Let's hope that your enthusiasm is infectious and that more parents join our fundraising community. We still have a long way to go!

Karen Roche, Chair of the governing body

fundraising@brakenhale.co.uk



PE News

This week has seen the start of our summer extra-curricular timetable and it is a shame the nice weather did not stay around as well. Hopefully we will have some brighter weeks coming up.

We have had a number of students attending athletics, rounders, tennis and softball but please make sure your son or daughter still knows when the clubs are and encourage them to turn up to them as they will be rewarded.

This week has seen our spring term reward trip where we headed off to Wokingham Family Golf Centre to play Foot Golf. We ended up taking 23 students and 4 members of staff. We had a brilliant time and everyone enjoyed themselves. There were some interesting kicking techniques and shots but we are all going to blame that on the wind.



Next week we only have one fixture and that is the U13 girls Handball Regional Tournament at Surrey Sports Park on Wednesday 2nd May. This will be during the school day.

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

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

Brakenhale Canteen

Please see our menu for next week.

A normal meal deal costs £2.30, which includes a main meal and pudding. If students prefer just to have the main meal, this costs £1.90.

Mrs Silvey, Catering & Enrichment Manager

Feedback Initiative

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

We would like this to be an ongoing initiative and would encourage you to submit your views and feedback at any time, we look forward to hearing from you regularly.

Ms Coley, Headteacher

Round-Up (20th to 26th April)



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

- ✓ Really impressed with the homework that's being logged, its consistence and it can remind the students who are more likely to forget
- ✓ The canteen food is very nice and is at a reasonable price.



Activities, Clubs and Information


**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"

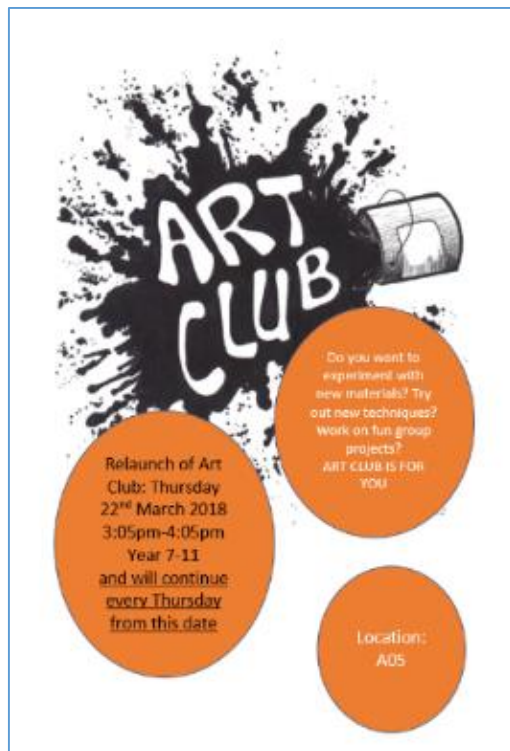


ART CLUB

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 every Thursday from this date

Location: AOS



Bracknell Cavaliers FC

Dear Parents/Carers

Bracknell Cavaliers is a great local long established football club which aims to cater for children of all ability levels, ages and backgrounds. The club is affiliated to the Football Association (FA) through our County – Berks and Bucks FA and is an FA Charter Standard Development Club. We are currently working hard towards FA Standard Charter Community Club, the highest level of accreditation for "grassroot" or community clubs.

Some of our teams are looking for football players to add to their teams, especially U12 year 7.


If your child is currently in these years or any others and is interested in joining a football team please contact:

- Mrs Jeanette Lovett (Bracknell Cavaliers FC Club Secretary) by email or mobile Jeanette.lovett@ntlworld.com or 07919275197




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 11-week step-by-step programme that runs for 3 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'.

Next course starts on Friday 4th May 2018 for 11 weeks (not half-term)
@ Brakenhale, Rectory Lane, Bracknell, Berks, RG12 7BA
Time: 09.30-12.30

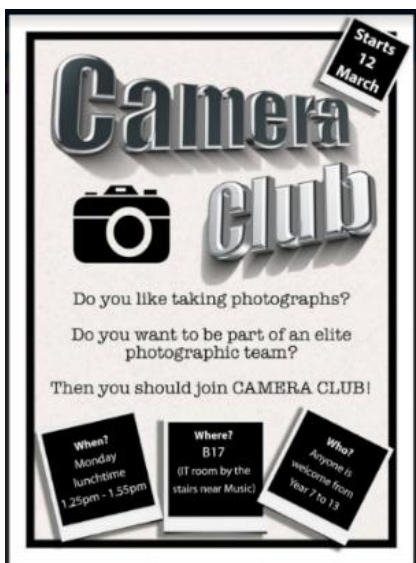
This course is being run by Brakenhale together with the Bracknell Family Intervention Team (FIT), which means we can offer places free of charge (normally £720 per parent). However places are limited so to avoid disappointment contact us on 01344 464793 or email us at jmanisier@brakenhale.co.uk

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 lunchtime 1.25pm - 1.55pm
Where? B17 (IT room by the stairs near Music)
Who? Anyone is welcome from Year 7 to 13

Starts 12 March



Mondays All years

TEXTILES STUDIO

3.10 to 4pm Starting 16th April
in C06



Current Vacancies

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

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

- Science Teacher
- Psychology Teacher
- Part time Art Teacher
- Maths Teacher
- English Teacher
- Head of Year
- Part time Finance Officer

BIR KIN Consult

Commercial Cleaning since 1972

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.

Clothes Recycling

Brakenhale School

RECYCLE YOUR OLD CLOTHES, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES.

We are again collecting old clothes, shoes and accessories to help raise money for the school via the PTA.

Please start collecting your unwanted items ready to bring in to school by Thursday 3rd May.

We will be giving out bags to students and they are also available from main reception, or you can put your items in a black bin bag.

Please contact Sarah Hartley at the school if you have any questions. shartley@brakenhale.co.uk

Thank you for supporting the school!

Brakenhale School

RECYCLE!

Don't send your unwanted items to landfill... The more bags you bring the more money we raise for the school.

Visit www.bag2school.com for more information.

The following 'good quality' items are accepted for RE-USE:

- Plain shoes (not together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats and Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Legwear and Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Household linen
- Curtains
- Towels
- Bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

Please note that the following are not accepted:

- Dirty and Stained
- Filthy and soiled
- Corporate clothing
- School uniforms with and without logo
- Ripped or worn clothing
- School uniforms with and without logo
- Corporate clothing and workwear
- Toxic off cuts, parts or threaded material

Bags are available from main reception, or put your items in a black bin bag.

Thank you for supporting the school!

Clothes Recycling Initiative

We are once again collecting your unwanted clothes, shoes, accessories and other household items for recycling. Please see our flyer for more details of items that are collected or visit <http://uk.bag2school.com/what-we-collect>

This time the collection will be a **House Competition!** When you bring your bags to main reception you will be asked to add your student's name (and tutor and house if you know them) to a list with the number of bags you have brought. The more bags the more house points! So get spring cleaning and send us all your unwanted clothing items.

We will be offering bags to students to take home, or you can put your items in an ordinary bin liner or other plastic bag.

Please bring all bags to main reception. We will be collecting until Thursday 3rd May.

Easy Fundraising!

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



Future Diary Dates

Thursday 10th May

Year 7 Parents Evening

Sunday 13th May

Lexicon Bracknell Half Marathon Water Station – volunteers welcome

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

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

☎ 01344 423041 ~ ✉ mainreception@brakenhale.co.uk ~ 🌐 www.brakenhale.co.uk

High Expectations and Challenge for All