



Dear Parents/Carers

After a very cold start to the week and the advent of more snow, the week very quickly went back to normal on the weather front. This was down to the outstanding commitment of so many staff to battle the conditions on the roads much earlier than normal to be on site, many by 6.30am, to help shovel snow and ice and lay grit and sand to ensure the site was fully safe. I am very lucky to have such a team of dedicated professionals at Brakenhale.

The building team arrived on site on Monday and began our exciting project in earnest. Very quickly the fences have come up and their offices have arrived! I would like to thank all students and parents for the amazing response we have had to these changes. Everyone has been so helpful in changing their routines to start the project off successfully. The website will be regularly updated with building news and I of course will give weekly updates on this.

This week Year 12 and 13 have been sitting their Pre Public Examinations (PPEs) along with some of the Year 10s taking part in PPEs for their upcoming GCSE Religious Studies exams. This has also been the week for house sporting activities and although Year 8 has been delayed to next week all other groups have now completed their competitions so we now await the overall results! The house system really is going from strength to strength. Continuing the sporting theme this weekend will see our Year 10 and 11 students go on their Silver practice Duke of Edinburgh so good luck to all of them!

Year 10 to 13 have had assemblies this week presented by senior police officers focusing on the dangers surrounding drug taking. These were very hard hitting presentations but we felt very necessary. It is so important that our young people fully understand the consequences of drug taking.

Our regular Parent Support Group took place on Monday and we had a really good turnout of parents to our coffee morning. Please look out for the adverts for any future events. We really do value time to talk to parents and to offer any support that we can.

Some of our students have taken part in a Stepathon for Sport Relief today. They took it in turns to walk and use the stepping machine and it became extremely competitive. All who took part received house points. We will update you with the amount raised as soon as the scores on the doors are in, but well done to all who took part.

Despite heading towards the end of term we still have the Year 7 Disco on Wednesday 28th March. If you haven't already purchased your tickets please do so as soon as possible.



Drab comments this week that we have actioned include:

- 'It would be great to have more information submitted via the Gateway app if a student received either an academic or behaviour point as more information would allow a discussion to take place.'

I have spoken to staff about this and we will endeavour to try and offer more detail.

- 'Paper recycling bins in classrooms to cut down on waste and help contribute to a better environment.'

We are in the process of ordering these – we just need to make sure that students are sticking to what can be put in certain bins!

- 'Recently I called the school and left a message for the form tutor to contact me due to an unforeseen emergency situation with my son, unfortunately they did not call me back and my son needed some additional support, this was very disappointing.'

I was really sorry to hear this and I have reminded staff of the importance of rapid communication home. If there is an emergency and you do not get a return call in a timely manner please phone reception and ask to speak to the Head of Year or a member of the Senior team.

Our staff member of the week this week is Miss Dawson, some comments that she has received are as follows:

‘She is a kind, good teacher and I guess this is a late birthday present – Happy birthday!’

‘She is a great teacher and she does nice things for her students. She teaches us what is best for us.’

‘She teaches us really well and is kind and nice.’

Our student of the week this week is Victoria Thompson, who participated in the 2nd section regional brass band contest in Stevenage with Saint Sebastian Wokingham band, for the opportunity to participate in the National Finals at Cheltenham in September. To our huge delight, the band came second and are therefore playing against the rest of the country in September. She was one of the youngest playing in the section.

Next week’s motivational saying is ‘You can have results or excuses, not both’. This is a very timely reminder to all of our students who are working so hard on the run up to their final examinations and it is a quote that can be found on the wall at Eton College!

Jane Coley, Headteacher

Brakenhale Rebuild - update

This week we have seen the work start in earnest:



Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries or concerns.

Ms J Coley, Headteacher

Brakenhale New Build Project - Fundraising

We need your help to raise £50,000 - needed by September 2019!!!!

Next week is our last to pop the green disks in the box at Waitrose. Please don't forget to ask for a disk (or six) when you shop and put it in the middle box before you leave the shop.

With thanks

Karen Roche, *Chair of the governing body* - fundraising@brakenhale.co.uk



£50k

£10

Student Council Elections

It's time for the student council elections. Having the right voice to get across student opinions, ideas and thoughts to the staff is really important, particularly in a time of change with all the building works around school.



The elections will take place for Years 7 to 10, where each student can vote for who they want to represent their year group, and the top 2 from each year will be elected.

Elections will take place on Tuesday 27th March at break and lunchtime in Miss Cmok's room.

I look forward to seeing students there!

Mrs C Masson, Student Voice Coordinator

Auschwitz Trip

Jamie Brazier and Bethan Van Der Poel from Year 12 had a life changing experience this week. As part of the Holocaust Educational Trust South Eastern visit they attended an awareness raising day at the site of the former Nazi extermination camp.

Jamie and Bethan had been at an orientation seminar the previous week in London before an early start this Wednesday, arriving at Gatwick at 5am for the flight to Poland. Braving very cold temperatures the students spent all day at the camp touring the site and getting information talks about the acts of genocide that took place there.

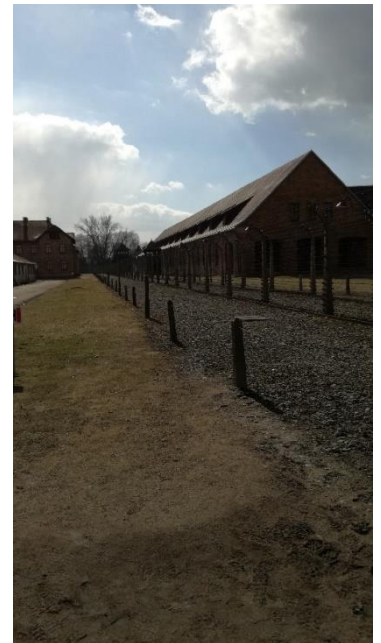
Bethan and Jamie said of their visit:

"It is just so hard to comprehend what happened on this site. The industrial scale of murder left us both feeling bewildered and overwhelmed. However, I will never forget what I saw today."

The visit culminated in a candlelit ceremony at dusk remembering the several million people who died there during World War Two.

Jamie and Bethan will be holding a series of assemblies after Easter raising awareness about the dangers of any sort of persecution with a particular focus on the Holocaust.

Mr Hartley, Deputy Headteacher



Sport Relief Billion Step Challenge

The school houses, together with some enthusiastic help from staff, took turns 'stepping' towards the Sport Relief challenge:



Well done to everyone who took part.

Health Zone

Year 8 Injections

Please can we remind parents of Year 8 girls to complete the HPV consent form, whether you are saying either yes or no to the vaccination. The first vaccination takes place on Tuesday 17th April 2018.

Any concerns regarding the vaccination please contact the school immunisation team on 01753 636759.

Thank you.

Mandy Ball, Health Coordinator

PE News

This has been another busy week for the PE department, starting off with the snow, a number of fixtures and inter-house competitions.

Inter-House Competitions

On Tuesday we kicked off with the **Year 9 inter-house competition**. All the students either took part in football, bench ball or a stepping challenge. Everyone who took part in the football and bench ball competition were really working hard to make their team win! It was nice to see the majority of students getting into the spirit and cheering on their house.

Winners of the football competition were Swinley, winners of the bench ball were Jennetts and winners of the stepping were Farley.

This meant it was an interesting competition to see which house was best in Year 9! With all the totals added up Jennetts won the overall house competition, with Swinley and Farley coming in joint second and Temple in 4th place.

On Wednesday the **boys in Year 11 had their own inter house competition**, the first time this has happened since Brakenhale started the inter-house competitions. It was a good tournament and all the players enjoyed themselves.

The results were:

1st: Jennetts, 2nd: Farley , 3rd: Temple, 4th: Swinley. Well done to Jennetts and everyone who played.

On Thursday we held the **Year 7 inter-house competition** and it was amazing! We had 7 students out of the whole year group who did not have kit and they took part in the step challenge. It was really nice to see everyone getting behind their house. A massive congratulations to all the Year 7s.

The results of the football competition are as follows:

1st: Farley, 2nd: Jennetts, 3rd: Swinley, 4th: Temple. Temple also won the bench ball competition. Details of who came 2nd, 3rd and 4th will be in next week's edition. The stepping winners for Year 7 were Farley. This means that Farley have won the spring term inter-house competition overall for Year 7. Well done Farley and to everyone who played.

NB: The Year 8 Inter-house competition has moved to WEDNESDAY 28th MARCH. Make sure all Year 8 have their kit. Everyone will be taking part!

U15 Football v Garth

Unfortunately we were on the wrong end of a goal fest losing 7-4, however the boys all did the school proud as they demonstrated great teamwork and never-say-die attitude and kept working hard individually and as a team, against a team that certainly did not show teamwork. Every time they went behind they came back working hard demonstrating good attitude and were disappointed at the end to lose having given it everything but Garth were a little more clinical with the chances they had. Goals from Reece P x 2, Lester and Clancy for Brakenhale. Onwards to final game next week vs Piggott.

U13 Girls Football v St Crispin's

This was the first time the team had played together and the girls were brilliant and worked together well. We had some amazing saves from Lily, but unfortunately St Crispin's strikers were just too good. Becky was brilliant at putting pressure on the players and she was everywhere and Scarlet made some lovely runs forward. Olivia, Hristina, Caris, Ellie and Chloe were brilliant as well. Unfortunately, we lost 5-0 but let's look forward to the next game.



Year 7 Football

The Year 7 football team has had a promising start to the East Berkshire League. As a new team that has not had much time to play together they have really stood up and shown that they will be a force to reckon with in the coming years. The first game of the league was narrowly contested against our old foe, Garth, in the pouring rain. With a ding-dong battle and Brakenhale unfortunate not to finish off some hard worked chances, Garth was victorious on the day 4-2. Captain Harry C led the team bravely by example and we fought to the very end showing great character. Harry picked up the man of the match award. Josh B and Alex B scored for us.

The next round was against our other neighbours E.P. It was a tight first half with Brakenhale going into the shed 1-1. The boys switched on and started playing some very tactical football, exploiting the space behind the defenders with our striker Pharrel S using his blistering pace to get us in the right positions. The boys in the maroon ended walking off the pitch 4-1. Man of the match was stand-in keeper Keyan W who frustrated the opposition by keeping most of their shots out. The score sheet that day had the names of Mason R, Pharrel S x 2 and Jayden C.

Round three saw us travel to the other side of Ascot to take on sporting giants, Charters. The lads walked on to the park still carrying loads of confidence from their performance against E.P. This game will always be remembered as the game where the Year 7 boys became a TEAM. They played some lovely football and unselfishly always looked to play their mates into space. It wasn't long before our team tactics started paying off and we went 4-0 ahead. The Brakenhale boys continued to rampage ahead and added another two with their brilliant inter-play. The goals started to dry up as Charters weathered the storm and figured out how to counter our tactics. However, it wasn't long before we found our rhythm again and started to use our wingers more. The final score was an outstanding result of some enterprising football, 12-0! Special mention has to go to our goal keeper, Harvey W, who on the day did some spectacular saves to keep the host scoreless. Captain Harry C kept control of the match not allowing us to get carried away and kept the boys focused on the game plan. The long score sheet reads as follows: Harry C x 2, Pharrel S x 2, Nathan S x 3, Jayden C x 2, Josh B x 2 and Will HJ x 1.

With one more game left of the season the boys are looking to make a big statement against LVS and finish the league strong.

Mr R Beukes, U12 Manager

Fixtures next week

- Tuesday 27th March
Year 10 Football v Piggott @ Home
Year 8 Football v Maiden Erlegh @ Maiden Erlegh

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

Ms Coley, Headteacher

Round-Up (16th March to 22nd March)

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

- ✓ Fabulous Communications
- ✓ Consistency throughout the school for all
- ✓ Respect for one another and help always on hand
- ✓ Thanks to Mr Hicks for allowing our daughter to join the Duke of Edinburgh programme at short notice



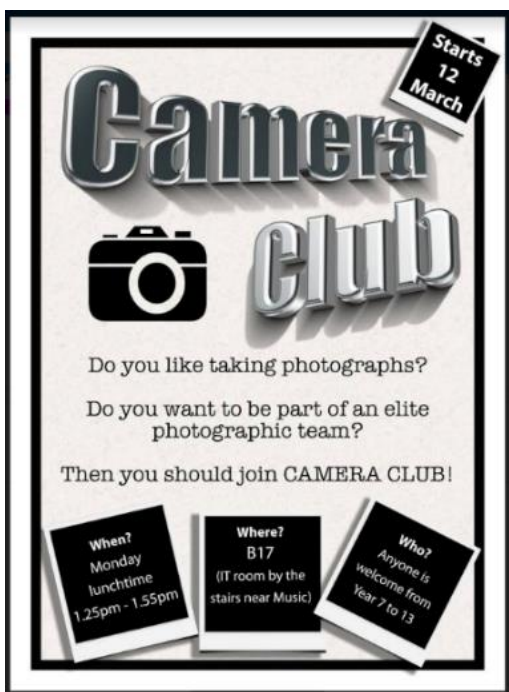
Current Vacancies

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
- Art Teacher
- Maths Teacher
- English Teacher
- Head of Year

Clubs



Camera Club

Starts 12 March

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



Mondays

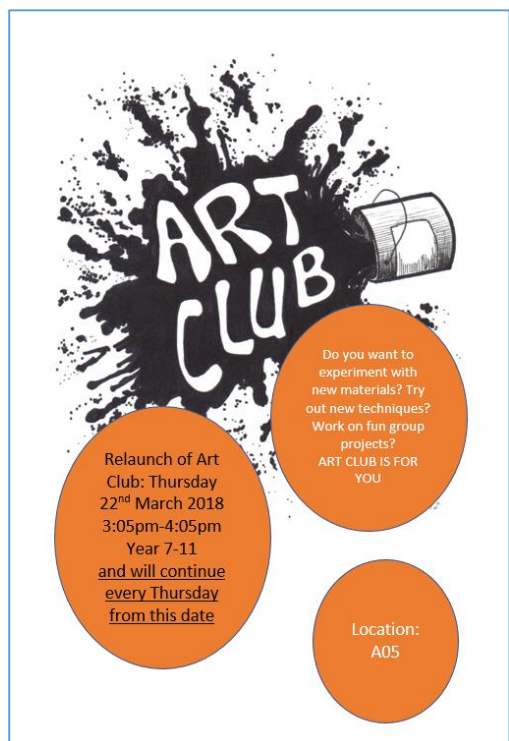
All Years

TEXTILES STUDIO

3.10 to 4pm

Starting 16th April

in C06



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: A05

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

PTA
THE BRAKENHALE TRUST
HEALTH TRUST (INCORPORATED)

Thank you for supporting the school!

Brakenhale School, Rectory Lane, Bracknell

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:

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats and Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Leggins and Socks
- Belt
- Soft toys
- Household linen
- Caravans
- Towels
- Building (but shoes, pillow cases and duvet covers)

Please note that the following are not accepted:

- Diapers and Blankets
- Pillows and cushions
- Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath mat and toilet mats)
- Sold, painted, ripped or wet clothing
- School uniforms with and without logo
- Corporate clothing and workwear
- Stools, off cuts, yarns 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.

Brakenhale PTA School Lottery

Thank you to everyone who has signed up, so far we currently have 44 signed up members. The amazing news is that since this has started in March 2017 it has raised almost £1000.

We are looking to increase new members each month. If you have not signed up yet now is your chance to do this.

There is a weekly draw in which you could win a prize currently £20 (this increases with the more members we have). Plus you have a weekly chance to win up to £25,000.

Click on the link today and join up: [Support the Brakenhale Lottery](#)

You have to be in it to win it.

your school lottery

supporting **BRAKENHALE**
High Expectations & Challenge for All

JOIN TODAY & YOU COULD WIN A FITBIT!

New Year, New Resolution - Buy a lottery ticket to support our School!

- Join our weekly, online lottery and you could Win a Fitbit this term!
- Our school receives 40% of all ticket sales!
- A **GUARANTEED** cash prize to one of our supporters every week!
- Tickets cost £1 per week!
- Help us raise valuable money to enhance our school this year.

To start supporting, visit:
www.yourschoollottery.co.uk

Search for:
Brakenhale

Supporter must be 16 years of age or older
*In some countries restrictions apply

Easy Fundraising!

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



Future Diary Dates

Monday 26 th March	Year 11, 12 and 13 Geography Field Trip
Tuesday 27 th March	Student Council Elections
Wednesday 28 th March	Year 7 Disco 7 - 9pm
Thursday 29 th March	Last day of Spring Term
Friday 30 th March to Friday 13 th April	Easter Holiday
Saturday 31 st March	Ski Trip
Monday 16 th April	First day of Summer Term
Tuesday 17 th April	Year 8 Girls injections
Tuesday 24 th April	PTA Meeting, 7pm

Term Dates 2017-18

SPRING TERM 2018

Term dates for students:

Wednesday 3rd January to Thursday 29th March

Spring Half Term – Monday 12th to Friday 16th February

Easter Holiday – Friday 30th March to Friday 13th April

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

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