

Brakenhale School Parent News

6th October 2017



Dear Parents/Carers

This week has been a particularly busy week with school tours on three out of five of the days. All of our tours have been significantly over-subscribed on every day which is a fantastic indicator of what a positive reputation the school has. I have been delighted to meet personally so many prospective parents and students.

We have also heard the absolutely fantastic news that our building team has been selected and the successful contractor is Wates. They are an extremely reputable and experienced building company who have created a number of very exciting school rebuilds. Next week we will host the public Re-build Information meetings to share the plans and to also take any questions surrounding the project. We will email out the date and time as soon as we have these agreed.

On Tuesday we had our PTA Cheese and Wine night which was attended by a number of staff and parents. We would love even more new members to come along to be a part of our PTA so if you are available to attend any of these meetings or events we would be very happy to welcome you. The money raised by the PTA is used in a variety of ways to support the students in their education, so it is a very worthwhile cause.

On this same theme today has been our first non-school uniform day of the year and we anticipate raising close to £1000 for Genes for Jeans and Daisy's Dream charities.

Next week sees the final school tours along with our Year 7 Meet the Tutor evening and our Year 11 Information Evening.

I hope you all enjoy a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Jane Coley, Headteacher

Parent Support Group



at Brakenhale

Wednesday 11th October
9.30am to 11am

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:

Friday 1st December ~ 9.30-11am
Thursday 1st February ~ 1.30-3pm
Monday 19th March ~ 9.30-11am
Wednesday 2nd May ~ 1.30-3pm
Wednesday 27th June ~ 9.30-11am

Brakenhale School
Rectory Lane
Bracknell
Berkshire
RG12 7BA

01344 423041

tgosling@brakenhale.co.uk

High Expectations and Challenge for All

What's on next week

Tuesday 10 th October	School Photos for Years 7, 9, 11 and Sixth Form
Wednesday 11 th October	Parent Support Group – 9.30-11am Year 11 Information Evening – 6-7pm
Thursday 12 th October	Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening – 4-7pm

Current Vacancies

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

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

- English Teacher
- Science Teacher & Second in Science
- Design Technology Teacher
- Nurture Group Lead
- Cleaning & Maintenance Assistant
- Cover Supervisor

PTA AGM

Thank you to everyone who joined us last Tuesday for our Cheese and Wine Evening. It was lovely to see some new faces.



Next month, on Tuesday 7th November, we will be holding our Annual General Meeting (AGM), where last year's committee is dissolved and we elect new members for the coming year.

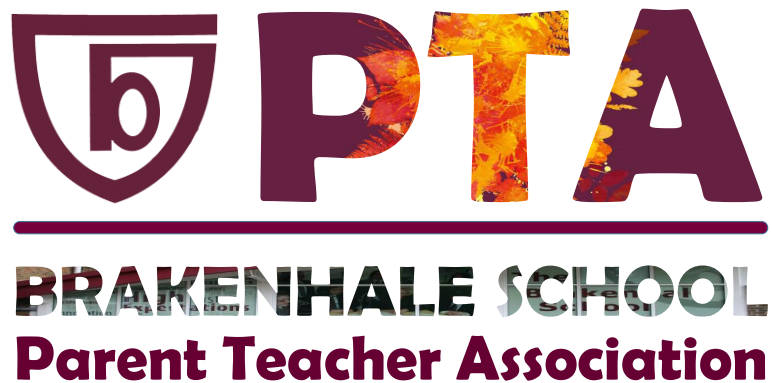
If this is something you would be interested in, please see our PTA page on the website for more information. Alternatively, you can contact the school.

The PTA is involved in various events during the year, having fun and raising money for the school. Last year we successfully put on school discos, organised the Christmas Market, hosted a Bingo Evening and put on a stall at the Lions Bracknell Show.

We also held various raffles, collected clothing to recycle for our Bag 2 School initiative and manned the first water station for the Bracknell Half Marathon. Together with providing refreshments for such school events as parents' evenings and Sports Day, the PTA play an integral part in school life.

Do come along to find out more about us and how you can help.

Martina Leahy, Brakenhale PTA Chair



Year 9 Exams

We will be running Exams for the whole of Year 9 during the week of Monday 20th November.

The timetable for this will be published shortly. If students would like some guidance regarding revision for their exams please check with subject teachers who will be delivering revision sessions.

Please do not hesitate to contact the exams team if you would like any further information.

Mrs Seymour, Exams Officer



Dance

Dark Matter Dance Company performed their new work in the Year 7 and 8 assemblies this week.

The boys' group are holding auditions after school on Thursday 12th October from 3:05 to 4:05pm in the movement studio for anyone wanting to join the company. Students do not need to prepare anything for the audition, they just need to bring in dance kit and participate in a workshop.

The auditions are open to boys in Years 7, 8 and 9 and successful students will be invited to join the company; this involves rehearsals after school on Tuesdays. For further information students or parents can contact Miss Haley.

Miss Haley, Head of Dance and Drama



Parent Workshops

Parenting Workshops at the Open Learning Centre.

- 5-10-17 - 9.30am to 11.30am - Communications
- 12-10-17 - 6.30pm to 8.30pm - Pre Teens
- 19-10-17 - 6.30pm - 8.30pm - Anxiety

If you would like to attend any of the workshops then please contact Tracey Gosling, our Family Worker, on 01344 423041 or by email: tgosling@brakenhale.co.uk



Parent Governor Vacancy

I am delighted to invite you to apply to become a parent governor on the Brakenhale School Local Governing Body. We have one vacancy at this point in time.

As you know, Brakenhale is an academy, within the Greenshaw Learning Trust. This means that our governing body works closely with the trustees and that we are not accountable for some of the responsibilities that maintained (local authorities) schools are. Our governing body is made up of ten governors from different walks of life. We are not looking for parents with any specific skills but a knowledge of the local business community or local charities or charitable organisations or a financial knowledge would be advantageous to us.

The role of the school governor is both rewarding to the individual and invaluable to the school. You will need to be supportive of the values of the school and be able to give time and effort to further its ongoing development; support and training is provided.

As a governor you will be expected to attend meetings and take an active part in them, help the governing body make informed decisions, and get involved with the school and its students. The Local Governing Body meets once per half term, 6 times a year, in the late afternoon. You will also be asked to take part in meetings which will take place at least once per term to take on particular tasks in relation to the work of the governing body and the school.

There are rules on a person's eligibility to be a governor, e.g. relating to bankruptcy and criminal convictions, and requirements on disclosure of interests and involvement in other bodies that could impact on the work of the Trust or the school. If you are eligible and wish to stand for election as a parent governor you should complete an application form; copies will be sent home via the parent mail or with the student next week.

If more applications are received than there are vacancies, a ballot will be held in which all parents and carers may vote. If a ballot is held the applicant's personal statement will be made available to all parents/carers.

Should you require further information, please contact the Clerk, Mrs Deykin, on clerk@greenshaw.co.uk.

Mrs Roche, Chair of Governors

School Production



School of Rock rehearsals have started. The cast have made a fantastic start and are impressing the staff with their effort and talent!

Reminder that rehearsals are Wednesday and Thursday after school, until 4:30.

Mrs Alison Raby, Teacher of Drama and Dance



Attendance

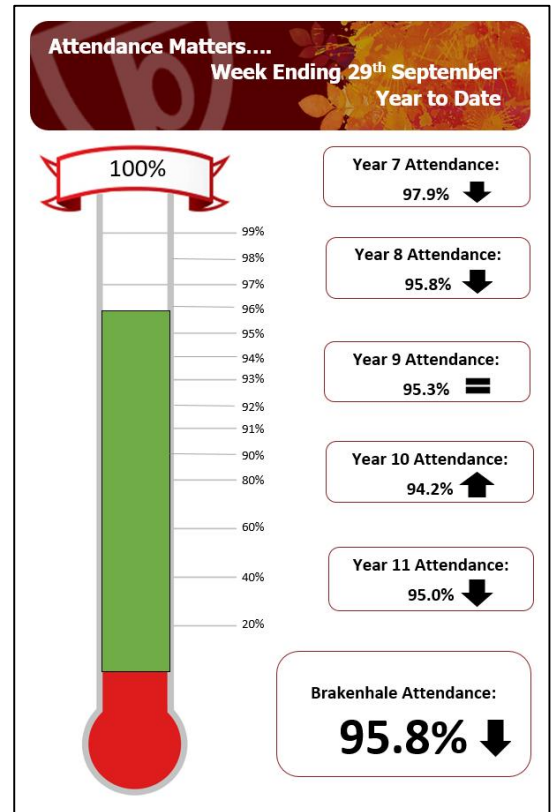
Congratulations Year 10! We have started to see the results of your hard work, Year 10 have had their best result yet achieving 95.1% last week, moving their year-to-date result up to 94.2%. Thank you for your help with this!

As the mornings are becoming darker we have seen an increased number of students being late. Students are due into tutor or assembly at 8:40am. One incidence of being late a term is overlooked, however two lates or more attract an increasing scale of sanctions which start with lunch-time detentions and in extreme circumstances can end in a fixed penalty notice.

We understand that it is sometimes difficult to get some students in to school therefore we have various ways that we can support you with this, such as early morning wake up calls or visits. Please contact me on 01344 465050 to discuss what we can do to support you.

As always please get in touch if there is anything that we can do to support you by telephone on 01344 465050 or by email on schoolattendance@brakenhale.co.uk

Mrs Evans, Attendance Office



Brakenhale Canteen

Please see our first exciting themed week in the dining hall: **Around the World.**

A 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

b **AROUND THE WORLD THEME** b
 WEEK COMENCING 9TH OCTOBER 2017

Monday Italian Spaghetti Carbonara / Bolognese Margherita Pizza Garlic Bread Broccoli & Sweetcorn Italian Sponge Fingers	Tuesday Indian Chicken Tikka Mixed Vegetable Curry Boiled Rice Bombay Potatoes Green Bean Medley Ice Cream
Wednesday Canadian Thanksgiving Roast Turkey & Stuffing Mac 'n' Cheese Mashed Potatoes Gravy Carrot & Swede Mash Peas Apple Pie & Whipped Cream	
Thursday MEXICAN Chilli Con Carne with Jacket Potato Chilli Bean Fajitas Sweetcorn & Peppers Tex Mex Chocolate Surprise Cake with Chocolate Sauce	Friday BEST OF BRITISH Fish Cheese Omelette Chips Beans Chocolate Cookie with Milk

High Expectations and Challenge for All

PE News

This week has been a busy week for the PE department, with a number of fixtures and extra-curricular clubs. We have had 157 students attending clubs this week, which has been amazing. We need to keep this up!

Lost PE Kit?

Please can you make sure your child has their name on all pieces of their PE kit, including the bag. If they lose it or leave it behind, it is then very easy to see who the PE kit belongs to and it can be returned to them.

Could you also remind your son/daughter to make sure they are putting all of their own PE kit in their own bag. We have had a number of students saying they have misplaced their kit.

Trampolining Club

Your son/daughter no longer needs to sign up for trampolining, they can just turn up on a Thursday for the club.

Year 10 and 11 Netball v Garth

On Tuesday Year 10 and 11 students had their first netball game of the season.

The Year 10s played well against a strong Garth team. Brakenhale just could not find any way to break down their very strong defence. We did have a very strong attack, however Garth managed to get every ball. Player of the match goes to Miriam A who had a brilliant game at Goal Keeper (GK).

The Year 11s played really well and showed great team work throughout their whole game. We had lots of good chances, however Garth's defence seemed to have luck on their side and won every rebound and loose ball. Our defence did well against the tall attackers from Garth but we could not stop their Goal Attack (GA) from getting it in the net. Player of the match goes to Asha who had an amazing game at Centre (C).

Final Score 13 - 33

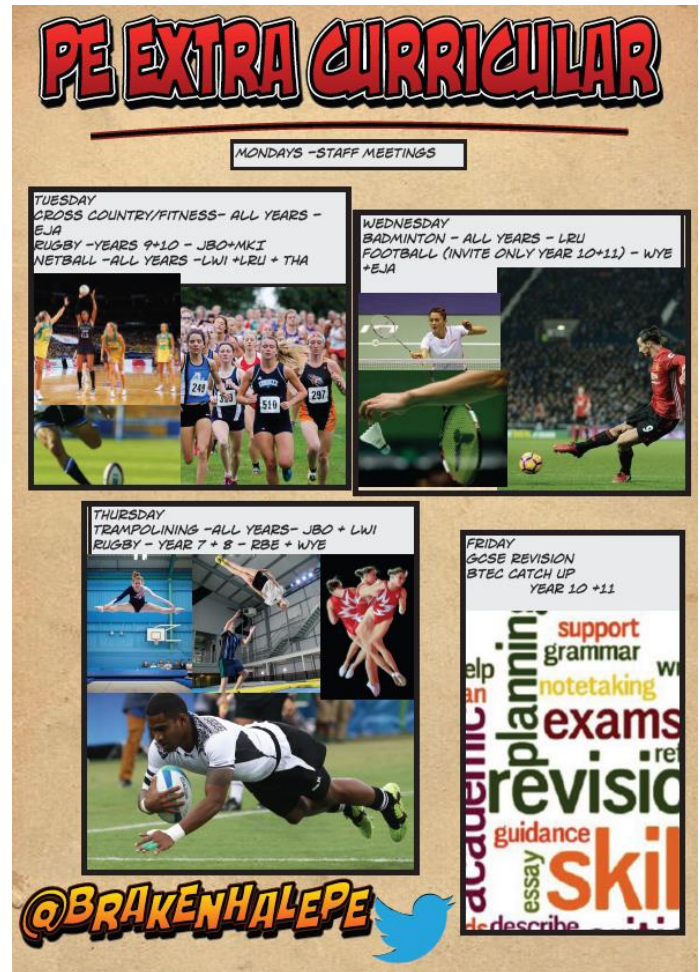
U13 Rugby Tournament

The U/13 boys played their first rugby tournament of the season. It was a great opportunity for them to learn the game in a friendly environment. However, the standard from all the teams were good and the matches were very competitive. The matches were closely contested with only one score separating the teams in most of the games played. Brakenhale put in some good performances, unfortunately the last minute defence let the other teams off the hook. This is something the boys will be working hard at in training and in lessons to ensure we improve for the next tournament. There were some standout individual performances and a special mention has to go to Joe M who led the team by example. Congratulations to Harvey H who impressed in his first rugby tournament.

Under 15 Football v Weydon School

The Under 15 boys football team played Weydon School from Farnham this week in the first round of the ESFA National Cup. This was the team's first ever game in the National competition and they played very well against a strong footballing side and will feel disappointed not to progress to Round 2. Year 9's, Ricky O made his debut for the team and impressed upfront. Man of the Match was Reece P who on another day would have scored a hat-trick.

Final score Brakenhale U15 1 Weydon 3



U16 Football v Charters

On Wednesday 4th October, Brakenhale's under 16 football team began their National Cup campaign with a second round tie away at Charters. The team had set the goal of reaching the 4th round of the competition, bettering their run to the 3rd round last year. Brakenhale started the game with purpose and looked to put their opponents away early, taking a 1-0 lead through Tom N who lobbed the keeper from the edge of the box. The lead was extended further soon after, Tom fouled in the area resulting in Joe O converting the penalty. The game was then flipped on its head as Charter's number 7 (a central midfielder on the books at Fulham FC) took control of the game and by half time Charters were back on level terms, 2-2 at the break.

The second half began in a similar fashion to the first, only without the breakthrough for Brakenhale. After a long spell of possession and against the run of play Charters took the lead with a superb counter attack goal, 3-2 the score. Going behind failed to deter the away side though and they continued to dominate the ball, consistently testing the Charters defence. With 15 minutes to go, finally the pressure took its toll on an otherwise resolute Charters rear-guard. A ball into the box saw the ball chested down for Joe O to volley home his second goal of the game into the far bottom corner, 3-3. Brakenhale were firmly in the ascendency now and regained the lead through a superb team goal that resulted in Tom N rounding the keeper and smashing home beyond two recovering defenders, 4-3!

There were a few nervy moments in the final minutes as Charters pushed for that elusive equaliser but the final whistle came too soon for them and Brakenhale progress into the 3rd round of the competition. Well done boys!

Cross Country

Well done for everyone who is taking part in the cross country events. We have been to a number of school and our students have been brilliant and shown real enthusiasm for the sport.

We have our final competitions next week and still have spaces if you are available.

Well done to everyone who played this week and good luck on your next fixture.

Fixtures for Next Week:

Tuesday 10th October

- Girls Cross Country @ Bulmershe School
- Year 9 Rugby v Sandhurst @ Home

Wednesday 11th October

- Primary School Netball Tournament - Netball Umpires required throughout the day until 3.30pm
- Year 10 Rugby V Sandhurst, Ranelagh and Garth @ Sandhurst
- Year 9 Rugby v Edgbarrow @ Home

Thursday 12th October

- Boys Cross Country @ Bulmershe



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

School Lottery

Don't forget to join up and purchase your tickets to start helping our school. If you haven't signed up now would be the time. This is an easy way to make money for the school and be in with a chance for winning. Thank you to all who have bought tickets and who continue to support the school.



Why not join today and not only will you be in with a chance of winning in the weekly prize draws but you will be helping to raise money for the school at the same time.

Click here to [Support the Brakenhale Lottery](#)

This term School Lottery are offering the chance to win an Amazon Echo Dot. You can find full details on their website.

Our School Lottery is a fun and effective way to raise money to help improve our school but we need your help to make it the best it can be.

Why not join now!

Easy Fundraising

With easyfundraising.org.uk you collect free donations to your selected cause every time you shop. You can make a big difference on everything from groceries to getaways and it doesn't cost you a penny!

When you shop the easyfundraising way with one of their 3083 shops and sites they give easyfundraising a commission for your purchase which is turned into a donation for your selected good cause.

When you visit the website easyfundraising.org.uk - simply search for the retailer you want to shop with and click out to them using the green 'Go Shopping' button. You will be taken straight to the retailer's website and your experience will be identical as if you had gone there directly but easyfundraising will be able to track your purchase to ensure a donation for your good cause.

You can also install their Donation Reminder - this means a box will appear if you are shopping with a retailer who participates in the Donation Reminder and you don't even need to visit the easyfundraising site! All you need to do is click Activate Donations and any eligible purchase will be recorded for you. Take a look at the Donation Reminder [here](#). The Donation Reminder is supported by Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer and Safari but can't work on mobile phones or tablets.

Shopping on your mobile? No problem, for mobile phones and tablets there is the handy easyfundraising App, perfect if you like to shop on the go and available completely free of charge from your App store. Now not only can you shop using it but you can check out your own donation total and see how your cause is getting on too. More information can be found [here](#).

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



Future Diary Dates

Wednesday 18 th October	Year 10 Information Evening, 6-7pm
23 rd to 27 th October	Half Term
Thursday 2 nd November	Year 13 Parents' Evening, 4-7pm
Tuesday 7 th November	PTA AGM, 7pm
Wednesday 8 th November	Sixth Form Open Evening
Week beginning 20 th November	Year 9 exams

Term Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2017

*Inset Days: Friday 1st and Monday 4th September
Inset Days: Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th December*

Term dates for students:

Tuesday 5th September – Friday 15th December 2017

Autumn Half Term – Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October

Christmas Holiday for students – Monday 18th December to Tuesday 2nd January 2018

SPRING TERM 2018

Term dates for students:

Wednesday 3rd January – 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 – 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 (date to be confirmed)

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

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