Parent News: Friday 30th April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

This has been in many ways a difficult week for me and I would like to say a huge thank you to so many of you who have taken the time to contact me directly with some lovely feedback. The decision to move on from Brakenhale, as I said in the communication on Monday, was an incredibly difficult one but I do know that the school is in a very strong place and can only get even better!

The week has been very much focused for students in Year 11 and Year 13 on their incredibly important assessments. The outcome of these will play an important part in the grades that are sent to the exam boards. I have been extremely impressed with the way in which students have approached this week and I have no doubt that they are going to do exceptionally well, despite the difficult circumstances of the past year.

Lower down the school, we held the Junior Maths challenge for our Year 7 and Year 8 students which went exceedingly well and we are awaiting the results with fingers crossed. PC Ian Gregory has been in to talk to students in Year 9 about the dangers of knife crime and these sessions will be continuing with other year groups across the coming weeks. The Army Engagement Programme has returned for a group of Year 9 students focusing on core skills of survival. It really is lovely to be able to begin to open up the school again to those who are able to come in and support our community.

Continuing on the theme of community support we have been chosen by the local authority as a pilot school to work alongside the NHS in providing a placement for two specialist emotional support workers. Adrian John and Rachel Duffy joined us on Wednesday 28th April and they will now be based with us weekly and begin their work with our students.

Student success continues with Harry and Molly Penn who have both been accepted onto the University of Oxford UNIQ programme which is aimed at giving UK students the opportunity to experience Oxford.

Student of the week:

Myles Gilder in Year 7 - for his contribution to helping the environment and protecting our local wildlife.

George James and Charlie Young in Year 9 - for volunteering to work at lunch times to improve the outside school environment.

Fab:

We haven't been at Brakenhale long (as you know) but I can honestly say, from my experiences with secondary schools, Brakenhale, to say the least, is the very best.

Staff member of the week:

Mr Duffy Really good communication and support.

Mr Budden Giving my daughter, who is very shy and unconfident, belief in her ability and recognition for her

achievements; this has made a huge difference to her self-esteem.

Quote of the week:

'If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else.' - Booker T Washington

Have a great weekend.

Best wishes,

Jane Coley, Headteacher

What's on next week

Next Week: B

Monday 3 rd May	Bank Holiday Monday, School closed
Tuesday 4 th May	CCF, 3.30-5.30pm
Wednesday 5 th May	Army Engagement Programme

University of Oxford UNIQ Programme

We are delighted to hear that 2 of our Year 12 students, Harry and Molly Penn, have been accepted onto the University of Oxford UNIQ programme.

UNIQ is a free programme aimed at giving UK students the opportunity to experience Oxford, and to allow them to form their own opinions on the suitability of the University.

UNIQ 2021 will be a sustained contact programme designed to support students over a period of 7 months. More information is available here: https://www.uniq.ox.ac.uk/aboutus

We are excited for both of our students to learn more about the University of Oxford and look forward to hearing all about it from them.

Mrs Masson, Head of Maths and Economics

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Corner

Welcome to our first Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Corner. Each week we'll be bringing you an overview of some key dates, events and sometimes links to resources on a variety of topics: ranging from religion, sexuality, gender, race; to name a few. If anyone in our community has anything they would like to add to our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Corner please get in touch!

In April:



The Holy month of Ramadan has started; Muslims around the world fast during the hours of sunlight. During this time we try to be mindful of members of our community who are fasting. If you'd like to learn more in this short video clip, Sara who is 11, explains about Ramadan:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02mwdxf

Monday 26th and Tuesday 27th April, saw Hindus celebrating the birth of Lord Rama's supreme devotee, the monkey-headed Hanuman. Hanuman appears in the Ramayana, which tells the story of Rama.

Friday 30th April is International Jazz Day. Jazz music has its roots in Western African culture and gained traction within the African-American community in Louisiana during the 1920s. As Jazz spread around the world it evolved and developed, adding different cultures to it. This weekend why not sit back with a cup of coffee and some Jazz on in the background!

Mr Vegh, Head of EDI and Mrs Lister, SLT

Young Writers Unsolved Competition

Calling all students aged 11 to 18 – Young Writers invites you into the thrilling world of crime and mystery writing with Unsolved, the latest mini saga writing completion to help reignite creativity.

There are 8 fantastic story starters to kick-start a story



told in just 100 words. Whose point of view will you choose to write from? Whether you love a good old mystery or want to make sure justice is served, the 'Unsolved' competition will help you plan and write a mini saga, engaging with creative writing and original ideas.

Please see Mrs Lewis for an entry form. Resources, more ideas and the story starters, if you want to use one, can be found on the entry form and on the Young Writers website. Please ensure you stories are back with her by the deadline of **Friday 21**st **May** (on the website it says 28th May but Mrs Lewis needs time to submit your entries).

The 5 favourite published writers will each with £100 and a trophy and the best school will be awarded The Young Writers' Award of Excellence and an awesome book bundle.

For more information please visit the Young Writers website: https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/KS3-4/unsolved

Mrs Lewis, English Teacher

Break and Lunch Time Facilities for Students

After the Bank Holiday weekend, we are delighted to share that students will be able to access a wider range of facilities during social times - whilst maintaining social distancing bubbles. A full rota, for both weeks, will be shared with all students on Tuesday 4th May, it will outline the use of:

- Tennis court area, lunchtimes ONLY MUST wear trainers
- MUGA pitches, lunchtimes ONLY MUST wear trainers
- Traversing wall, breaks and lunchtimes
- NEW Outdoor Table tennis tables, break and lunchtimes (also available before and after school)

Students are asked to bring their own footballs, or basketballs for these areas; they are also asked to bring their own table tennis bats and balls - these are readily available for a very reasonable cost at many outlets (ie: Sports Direct - approximately £5.99 for two bats and balls). We do have a number of bats available to purchase through

ParentPay and more details of these will be shared via a School Communication when the tables have been installed. We will also be selling table tennis balls, both at a very good price. The bats will be on a first come, first served basis.

The table tennis tables are due to be installed next week (weather permitting) - students will be told when they are available for use.

Finally, in order to ensure all of these facilities are looked after, treated correctly and last for a considerable length of time - students will be expected to follow some rules when using the equipment. These will also be shared next week.

We believe that this will further support all of our students to settle back into school life, providing them with a physical and mental wellbeing outlet during social times. We very much look forward to seeing all facilities used properly and with positive engagement.

Mr Coley, Assistant Headteacher

House Points this Week

We continue to recognise the hard work that our students are doing through our House System by issuing House Points. It has been amazing to see so many of our students rewarded with many achievement points this week across the departments.

Keep up the Hard work! Congratuations to everyone who has gained house points this week:

Achievement Points This Week								
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Total
Academic Points	706	378	425	220	121	0	0	1850
Aspiration Points	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	5
Community Points	33	58	22	12	20	1	0	146
Community Points Out and About MDS	225	191	188	0	0	0	0	604
Culture Points	30	35	3	21	0	33	0	122
Leadership Points	22	3	6	0	0	1	0	32
Physical Points	214	199	81	46	0	8	4	552
Total	1233	865	726	299	141	43	4	3311

House Points This Week								
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Total
Farley (BLUE)	335	215	168	59	18	11	2	808
Jennetts (YELLOW)	305	251	180	85	49	9	0	879
Swinley (RED)	269	169	167	92	44	11	2	754
Temple (GREEN)	324	230	211	63	30	12	0	870
Total	1233	865	726	299	141	43	4	3311





House Winners

Jennetts

Royal Academy -Young Artist Competition

We have been so impressed with the entries received for the Royal Academy Young Artist Summer Show competition. As you can see there have been a range of different pieces that have been submitted from all through the school.

We have students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 who have submitted artwork which has been a delight to see. Some stunning work in a range of different media, from pencil to digital artwork and many paintings in acrylic and oils too.

A huge thank you and well done to all of you, each entry has been awarded Brakenhale culture house points and will have the opportunity to be selected for the Royal Academy online or in a gallery exhibition this summer.

Good luck to all of the entries, we should hear by the end of May if any of you are successful.

Mrs Faluyi, Art Teacher

The Brakenhale School's submissions















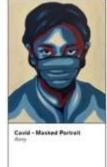


























PE Update

Second Hand PE Kit Sale

Our first afternoon of sales on Thursday went down a storm and we raised £120. Thank you to everyone who came along to purchase items and support the school. Our next sale will be on Thursday 6th May, 3pm to 4pm, from the PE block.

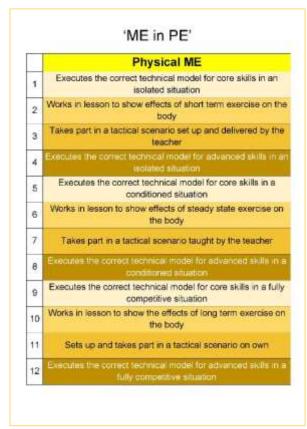
PE Champions

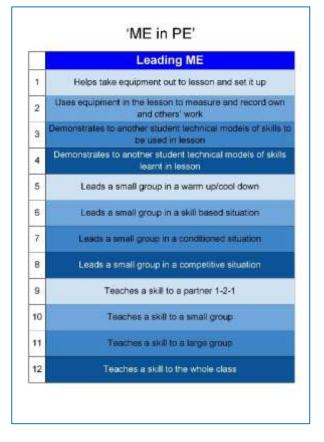
Please see who has been an amazing an PE Champion this week.





Assessment: ME in PE: In the summer term it is Physical ME and Leading ME









Mr M Potter, Head of PE and Mr C Maye, Second in PE



Follow us . . .
On Twitter & Instagram:



@brakenhalepe #teambrakenhale #brakenhalepe #bekind



BRAKENHALE PE DEPARTMENT - AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS - HALF TERM 5 - 2020-2021

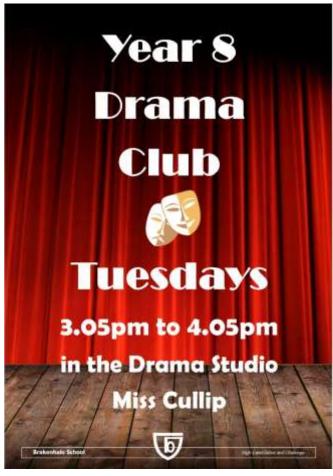


	MONDAY TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Lunch time (1330-1400) Ties & blazers OFF, trainers ON!		YEAR 10 Activity: BASKETBALL Where: SPORTS HALL Staff: CBU (JBO)			
AFTER SCHOOL (1515-1630) Full kit needed to participate ***4pm FINISH for Trampolining*** Please can you: Bring your FULL kit to take part Let YOUR parents know you are coming Register with PE staff to get your house points for attending	No clubs due to staff meetings!	YEAR 7 Activity: Badminton Location: Sports Hall Staff: CPI Activity: Rounders Location: Astro/field Staff: NLA YEAR 8 Activity: Football Location: Field Staff: MPO YEAR 9 Activity: Football Location: Astro/field Staff: CMY Year 12/13 Activity: Boxing/fitness Location: JNS Staff: ABI	YEAR 7 Activity: Cricket Location: Astro/nets Staff: KWH/MPO Activity: Nethall Location: Field Staff: ABT YEAR 8 Activity: Multi Sports Location: Field Staff: CMY & ABI Activity: Basketball Location: Sports hall Staff: CBU & SNA YEAR 9 Activity: Rounders/Softball/Golf Location: Field Staff: JBO	YEAR 7 Activity: Football Location: Astro Staff: JBO & CCO YEAR 8 Activity: Netball Location: Courts Staff: KWI YEAR 9 Activity: Cricket Location: Astro/nets Staff: KWH YEAR 10 Activity: Athletics/fitness Location: Field/fitness suite Staff: LRU	No clubs due to Pi exam revision and catcl up sessions!
Wet weather space for clubs!		7 - Sports hall 8 - Trampolining - TC 9 - Fitness - Fitness Suite 12/13 - JNS	7 - Fitness - Fitness Suite 8 - Sports hall 9 - Trampolining - TC	7 - Trampolining - TC 8 - Trampolining - TC 9 - Sports hall 10 - Fitness suite	
Changing spaces for school clubs		Y7 - CHANGE IN SPORTS HALL CHANGING ROOMS Y8 - CHANGE IN DANCE CHANGING ROOMS Y9 - CHANGE IN JNS CHANGING ROOMS Y12/13 - CHANGE IN PE/PA CLASSROOMS	Y7 - CHANGE IN SPORTS HALL CHANGING ROOMS Y8 - CHANGE IN DANCE CHANGING ROOMS Y9 - CHANGE IN INS CHANGING ROOMS	Y7 - CHANGE IN SPORTS HALL CHANGING ROOMS Y8 - CHANGE IN DANCE CHANGING ROOMS Y9 - CHANGE IN INS CHANGING ROOMS Y10 - CHANGE IN PE/PA CLASSROOMS	

Sessions may be postponed on a weekly basis due to staff meetings which take place in line with the school calendar – please check the school weekly bulletin to confirm on a weekly basis. Also please see @brakenhalepe on twitter and instagram for updates on school clubs and fixtures.

All of these sessions are **open**, with all students in the listed year groups welcome to attend. Please see PE staff or email <u>pe@brakenhale.co.uk</u> for more information on our clubs!









Library Challenge

With spring poking through winter's last icy blast (we hope) this term our librarians are thinking of being outdoors and the way spring brings new life. Most associate spring with green grass, daffodils and fluffy lambs skipping through the countryside. This month for our library challenge, we are going to be looking at animals in stories, some are the main characters with the story written from the animal's point of view, some play an important part in the story and some make an appearance to help with a plot twist.



So on to the Library challenge.

- Read a book with an animal as one of the characters.
- Write a book review and include why or how the animal shapes the story.

House points are up for grabs for anyone who completes either part.

Book review sheets are available in the Library next to the animal stories display table. You are welcome to choose a book from the display or find a book in the book area.

Book reviews can be written on audio books too. Audible has a great selection of free children's books that can be streamed without the need to sign up. For our EAL students, they have a great selection of audio books in different languages.

https://stories.audible.com/start-listen

Some ideas to get you started.

- How to Train Your Dragon.
- War Horse
- Warrior Cats
- Black Beauty
- Fantastic Mr Fox
- Esio Trot
- Pax
- Dragon Rider
- The Dog Runner

Mrs Daniels and the Student Librarians















Free School Meals

The Admissions Department of Bracknell Forest Council handles the authorisation and administration of Free School Meals. If you think your son/daughter may qualify, please complete the Bracknell Forest Council application form via the link below.

www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/.../how-do-i-apply-free-school-meals

It is worthwhile applying for Free School Meals entitlement even if your child does not require a school lunch because your son/daughter may receive financial assistance with other school related expenses.

During lockdown weekly food parcels can be collected from Main Reception between 10am and 12noon.

Taz Asran, Chef Manager

School Dining Hall

The School Dining Hall is open daily for all students as follows:

7.45-8.30: Breakfast which includes:

Fresh Fruit / Yoghurt bar / Cereals / Bacon or Sausage Rolls / Danish Pastries / Hot Chocolate

10.00-11.30: Break-time (staggered) **12.30-2.00:** Lunch-time (staggered)

3.05: Any unsold food may be purchased at half price by cash or account

Our in-house caterers have a fresh approach to food and we have a number of different meal deals and a hot school meal, which includes either a drink or a pudding.

A selection of sandwiches, pizza slices, salad and pasta are also available.

More information and sample menus are available on www.brakenhale.co.uk/pastoral-support/parent-zone/

There is a 3 week menu rotation, please see below. Next week (3rd May) will be week 1:



Taz Asran, Chef Manager

Action for Happiness

Find out more information here : https://www.actionforhappiness.org/

Active April 2021

In April month we encouraged you to get active, get outdoors and take care of your body, reaping the benefits of getting our bodies moving and breathing more deeply as a result of exercising, laughing and even singing! We don't all need to run marathons - there are simple things we can all do to take care of our bodies - for example unplugging from technology, getting outside and - importantly - making sure we get enough sleep!



Meaningful May 2021

Being a part of something bigger than ourselves or focusing on things that we value is key to our wellbeing. Having a faith, or being involved with a particular cause or passion can provide this sense of something bigger, or it could be relationships or things that you nurture. Let's take time to reflect on what we care about this month and keep these things at the front of our minds as society opens up again.



Fundraising

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.

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



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 you can not only 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.

Friends of Brakenhale

Our tax-free fundraising campaign page is now live:

Friends of Brakenhale

https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-

web/charity/displayCharityCampaignPage.action?campaignId=9819&charityId=1018027

Friends of Brakenhale support the raising of additional funds to support the Brakenhale School community. Please help us to raise money by supporting our events. Any donation small or large will help to directly support the school and local community.

School Lottery

Congratulations to the most recent prize draw winners.

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to our school lottery. We are continually looking to increase new members each month, so 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 (approximately £20 depending on participants, which increases the more members we have). Plus you have a weekly chance to win up to £25,000.

There is also a chance to win restaurant vouchers this summer.





Click on the link today and join up: Support the Brakenhale Lottery You have to be in it to win it.

Vacancies

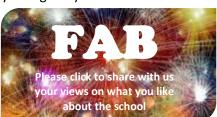


- Senior Science Technician
- Invigilator

Please visit our website for more details: https://brakenhale.co.uk/about/vacancies/

Feedback Initiative

We would encourage you to submit your views and feedback at any time, and we look forward to hearing from you regularly. **Electronic submission:**







<u>Pab</u> <u>Drab</u>

Staff Member of the Week

Future Diary Dates

* Please note that all events may be subject to change

PCSO Crime Workshop	Thursday 13 th May
Year 13 Last Day	Friday 14 th May
Army Engagement Programme	Wednesday 19 th May
Year 11 Last day	Friday 21 st May
Army Engagement Programme	Wednesday 26 th May
Year 9 Immunisations	Thursday 27 th and Friday 28 th May
Last day of half term	Friday 28 th May
Year 7 Parents' Evening	Thursday 10 th June
Year 8 Parents' Evening	Thursday 17 th June

Term Dates 2020-21

SUMMER TERM 2021

Monday 19th April - Friday 16th July 2021

Summer Half Term - Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2021

Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st July 2021 Inset Days

Summer Holiday: Thursday 22nd July 2021

INSET Days Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st July 2021

Term Dates 2021-22

AUTUMN TERM 2021

Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd September 2021 Inset Days

Friday 3rd September (Year 7 only) – Friday 17th December 2021

Autumn Half Term - Monday 25th to Friday 29th October 2021

Christmas Holiday: Monday 20th December 2021 to Monday 3rd January 2022

SPRING TERM 2022

Tuesday 4th January – Friday 1st April 2022

Spring Half Term - Monday 14th February to Friday 18th February 2022

Spring Holiday: Monday 4th to Monday 18th April 2022

(Good Friday 15th April, Easter Monday 18th April)

SUMMER TERM 2023

Tuesday 19th April – Tuesday 19th July 2022

Summer Half Term - Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June 2022

Wednesday 20th, Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd July 2022 Inset Days

Summer Holiday: Wednesday 20th July 2022

(May Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May 2022)

Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd September 2021 **INSET Days**

Wednesday 20th, Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd July 2022

Please check the school website regularly for current information.

Bracknell Forest term dates can be found on their website: https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/term-dates









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