



Parent News: Friday 29th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I do hope the snow magic boosted your spirits across the weekend and you managed to get outside and have some well needed fun - who would have thought that a bit of snow could bring so much joy! On Monday at 6.30am our superstar staff were on site to help clear the paths and car park to allow for safe use of the school grounds, a big thank you to Mr Elsey and the site team, Mrs Best, Mr Murray and Mr Cooper for being our chief snow shovellers!

The snow and ice did cause some issues for the site work as the last parts of the tarmac were due to begin on Monday but by Tuesday with the thaw beginning, an army of workers arrived on site to begin. On Thursday I met with the building company and representatives from the Department of Education who came for the penultimate visit before final sign off and everyone was very pleased and incredibly proud of the progress made and the fact we're almost over the finishing line!

Congratulations go to Miss Manning this week on her appointment to the role of Head of Army within the Combined Cadet Force. Miss Manning has been with the CCF from the very beginning and her passion and commitment to the organisation which has impacted so positively on Brakenhale has always shone through. Both Miss Manning and Mr Beukes are on target to become Lieutenants shortly. Well done!

SLT Assemblies:

Mr Corry delivered a superb assembly this week on 'Well Being', particularly focusing on the pros and cons of using social media and the benefits of getting out and about as regularly as possible. Please do catch up with this if you haven't managed to see it yet.

Student of the week:

Jay James in Year 11 - For very kindly donating his sleigh to two younger children in the community for them to use in the snow!

Lauren Slade in Year 11 - For spending time with a Year 9 student encouraging her to take Art by easing her anxiety and showing her her own artwork portfolio.

Fab:

- The live lessons have made a huge difference and my daughter seems to be getting on well with everything. Thank you again for all the hard work you and your colleagues are putting into this. It is much appreciated by us.
- Please let Flamingo Friday be every week! We have all just logged on as a family to watch, brilliant! Ms Coley needs to get some sort of OBE awards for teachers as hands down you would get one! Made all of our days, (although my daughter died of embarrassment at us all sitting round her laptop eagerly having only just opened her eyes!) A great and positive start to another mundane lockdown day! Thank you!
- Keep up the amazing work as always!
- I just wanted to send my thanks to your amazing team. My son has been attending school and home learning (Fridays) and I am really impressed with the online lessons that I have seen. The teachers are doing a wonderful job. I would also like to mention Miss Hayward, Miss Manisier and Miss Moore for taking time out to phone me and to check up on how my son is getting on. They have each been very supportive and reassuring.
- Since my daughter has started the virtual lessons I can see a real change in her motivation. The staff are all doing such an amazing job with these lessons and I can't thank you all enough for what you are all doing.

- Thank you for running the Fun Fridays again during lockdown. We have enjoyed doing many of these. Last week was great, as it got the teenager out of the house to take some nature photography and this week will work very well.
- Despite technical issues beyond the school control and not seeing half the appointments booked, I would like to thank all staff and teachers for all their efforts and time given during parents evening.
- Fabulous house points are still awarded and given during lockdown. So nice students' efforts get recognised from home. Thank you.
- Despite technical hitch - Thank you to all the staff who gave up their time for Year 9 parents evening. The appointments we did manage to have were informative.
- With the pressure we are all under, parents, students, teachers and all staff, we think you are all amazing to continue to recognise and reward the students in achievement points for the hard work and efforts put in day after day.
- No cameras on during a live lesson is much better, can concentrate more on the lessons and not what others are doing.
- Uplifting tutor time, a great start to the day. Tutor Kahoot enjoyed and tutor weekly call - appreciate you checking in. Thank you - 9H Parents.
- The House system is good to have in a school and our children look forward to a range of activities, House Competitions and 'Fun Friday' Challenges that all contribute to House Points. Good to see a bit of friendly competition going on in each week's newsletter.
- Teachers, all staff, everyone working so hard daily, either directly with our kids or working behind the scenes. Not only educating them but caring. Huge Thank you. Some excellent school assemblies the past few weeks. It's been nice for us parents to join in on these.

Drab:

We have received a few emails this week querying why there is no PE on the daily live timetable and requesting that this is reviewed. I fully understand the concerns and as a result we are going to review the timetable at KS3 next week with a view to making some changes to incorporate PE and Performing Arts after half term. We were reluctant to make changes until we knew for definite we would not be returning immediately after half term. We are also planning a more active day for Friday 12th February - more details to come next week.

Staff member of the week:

Mrs Turner	The weekly calls have been so beneficial to me these past weeks. Yesterday Mrs Turner went above and beyond by offering to come into school if required to support my daughter who will need to attend for the first time next week and is feeling anxious. I can't tell you how reassuring this was, thank you.
Mrs D Turner	For her weekly communications, help and advice, a really lovely Teacher.
Mrs Wilhelmy	For reaching out and checking on her tutor group, and making sure we are ok :)
Mr Lloyd-Ahmed	Our Son does not particularly enjoy IT in general, yet has been really focused in your Live lessons and shown great interest. Clear instruction, able to work at his own pace and little more confident on working on PC since these live lessons with you. Thank you - Year 9 Parents.
Mr Bury	Mr Bury always goes above and beyond checking in with my son and also me and the family. Much appreciated from us.

Quote of the week:

'STOP being MAD at yourself for being EXHAUSTED, for crying, losing patience or not having the time or ENERGY to do absolutely everything. Stop being so hard on yourself, all of this is INCREDIBLY hard. You ARE DOING OKAY.' - Emily Coxhead

I hope you manage some time away from screens at the weekend and you are all keeping safe.

My very best wishes

Jane Coley, Headteacher

School Houses

Have you got lots of ideas?

Do you want to make a difference?

Do you want to really fly the flag for your House?

Do you see yourself as an inspirational leader?

If so your house needs you!

If you would like to apply, please click on this [google form link](#) to submit your application as soon as possible.



Find out more about our Heads of Houses here:



Head of House: FARLEY



A little bit about your House Captain Mrs Harris








How long have you been head of House? **I have been Head of Farley House for 1 month, since January 2021!**

Events that you do within your house System? **Due to lockdown we have not had the opportunity to do much together as of yet but I have joined in all the Fun Friday challenges so we can support each other within our Farley team.**

What does the house system mean to you? **MOTO for Farley is Believe, Aspire and Succeed Together. I hope that the House system will bring more students and staff together to build trusted friendships and relationships: enjoy activities together, and support one another for events and sports day, to be the best we can, achieve together with our hopes and dreams.**

Raising funds you do in your house (cake sales etc)? **I want to raise funds by cake sales, movie night with popcorn, photo booth.**

Your favourite sport to watch? **This is a tough one! Any sport that England are playing in! Loved watching England win the Cricket World Cup in 2019 and the Commonwealth Games for Netball in 2018.**

Your favourite sport to play? **Tennis.**

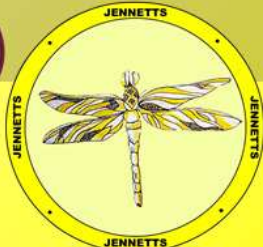

Football team you support? **England.**

Activities you like out of school? **I like cycling, walking and visiting new places and sightseeing.**



Head of House: JENNETTS

A little bit about your House Captain Mr Meye

How long have you been head of House? **THIS IS MY 3rd ACADEMIC YEAR**

Events that you do within your house System? **ALL SCHOOL EVENTS**

What does the house system mean to you? **THE HOUSE SYSTEM IS A COMMUNITY WHERE PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT AGES AND BACKGROUNDS COME TOGETHER, WORK TOGETHER, SUPPORT EACH OTHER.**

Raising funds you do in your house (cake sales etc)? **CAKE SALES BUT ALSO HAVE PLANS FOR PHONE CASE, GAME CONTROLLER COATING**

Your favourite sport to watch? **FOOTBALL**



Your favourite sport to play? **FOOTBALL (IF MY BODY ALLOWS)**

Football team you support? **LIVERPOOL**

Activities you like out of school? **COACHING FOOTBALL, FAMILY TIME, GOING TO THE GYM**

Head of House: SWINLEY

A little bit about your House Captain Mrs Turner

How long have you been head of House? **I have been head of Swinley since September 2020.**

Events that you do within your house System? **Unfortunately due to lockdown I have not had a chance to run any yet. I do however have lots of ideas for when things return to normal.**

What does the house system mean to you? **The house system to me means working to build our own confidence through the many character badges as well as working together as a team to promote inclusion and accomplish great things both in school and in the wider community.**

Raising funds you do in your house (cake sales etc)? **Not yet but watch this space...**

Your favourite sport to watch? **Football and Ice Hockey.**

Your favourite sport to play? **Football and Netball.**

Football team you support? **Family team is Arsenal, however I grew up supporting Liverpool.**

Activities you like out of school? **I enjoy painting, walks, volunteering in the local community, singing and fossil hunting.**

Head of House: TEMPLE

A little bit about your House Captain Mrs Duffy




How long have you been head of House? **3 years! I still remember the very first meeting when we decided on House names and colours!**

Events that you do within your house System? **All school events when possible.**

What does the house system mean to you? **It is all about celebrating the positives and coming together as a community. Temple students are simply fantastic and make me so proud!**

Raising funds you do in your house (cake sales etc)? **We have had some fantastic cake sales that allowed us to fund our sports day flag and mascot.**

Your favourite sport to watch? **Football.**

Your favourite sport to play? **Darts.**

Football team you support? **Leeds United (we're going up).**

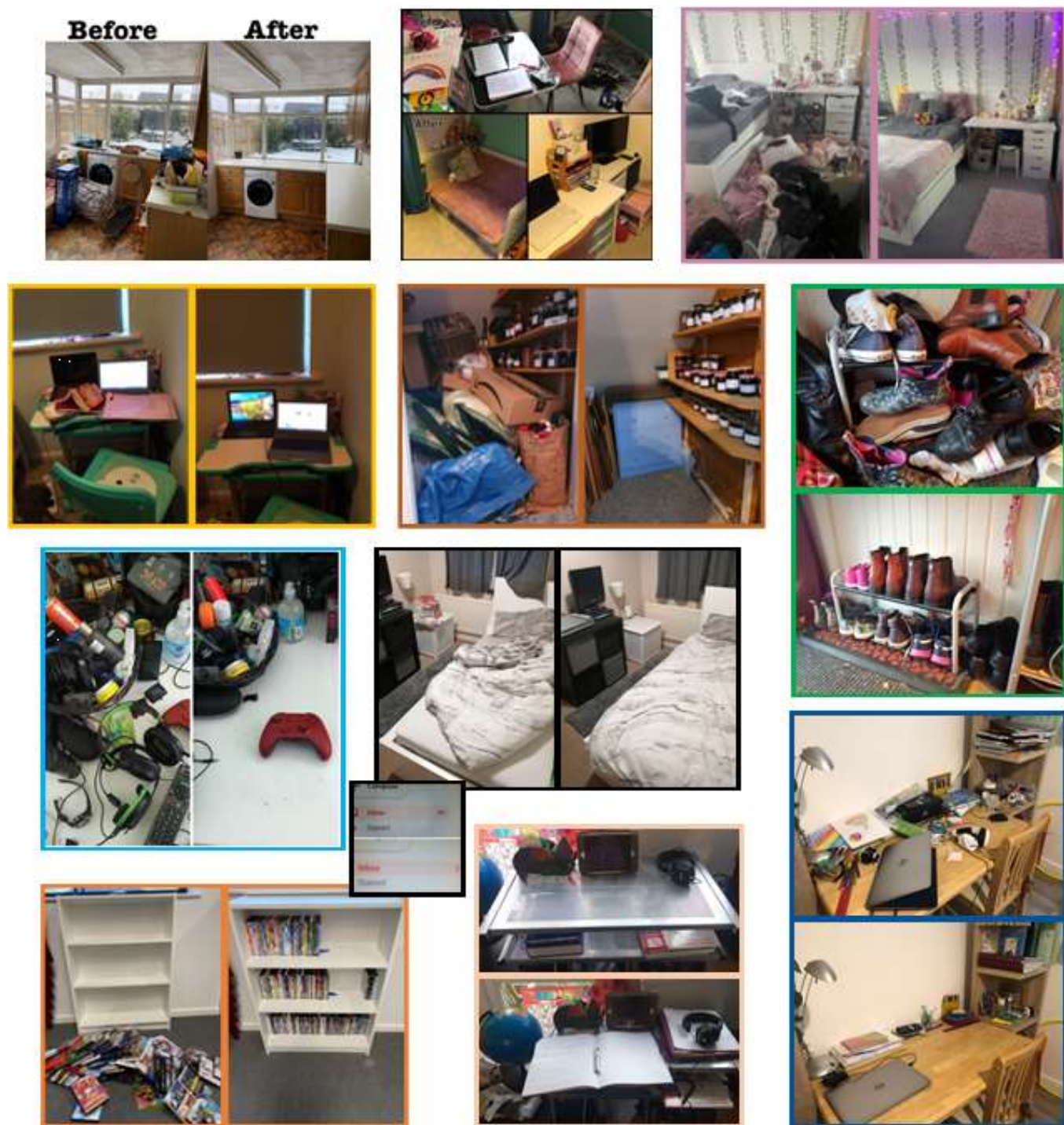
Activities you like out of school? **Going to the theatre, running my own dance projects, yoga and the gym (well, the spa bit of the gym!)**

Character Challenge (Fun Fridays) and House Competitions

Thank you to everyone who submitted entries last week. Please find some of them below and congratulations to the winners.

Week Ending 29th January: Tap to Tidy

Well done to everyone who sorted and tidied this week:



Next Week

Please find below the Challenge for next week, which will come under our Character of CULTURE.

Please send your entries to character@brakenhale.co.uk.

We would like to encourage as many students, young and old, to get involved!

Mr R Beukes, Assistant Headteacher

Each entry will receive 3 House Points in line with the Character Strength. A winner and a runner up will be selected in each year group.

🏆 **1st place** = 10 additional House Points

🏆 **2nd place** = 5 additional House Points

🏆 **3rd place** = 3 additional House Points



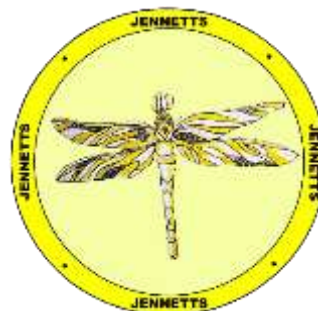
House Points this Week:

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 so many achievement points this week across the departments, even in lockdown.

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

House Points								
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Total
Farley (BLUE)	234	147	187	164	141	0	0	873
Jennetts (YELLOW)	211	179	199	188	161	5	8	951
Swinley (RED)	194	142	220	188	145	0	0	889
Temple (GREEN)	212	185	215	164	124	0	0	900
Total	851	653	821	704	571	5	8	3613

House Points								
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Total
Academic Point	688	570	745	649	542	0	0	3194
Aspiration Points	27	6	3	49	21	5	8	119
Community Point	55	27	1	0	0	0	0	83
Culture Points	49	12	0	0	0	0	0	61
Physical	32	38	72	6	8	0	0	156
Total	851	653	821	704	571	5	8	3613



House Winners
Jennetts

EAL Department in Italian

EAL (English as an Additional Language)

Catering for a variety of learners, the EAL department offers support to students with varying levels of proficiency in the English Language, aiding in accessibility and promoting achievement and independence.

The purpose of the EAL Department is to offer support to pupils of different cultural and linguistic backgrounds as they work towards proficiency in English, while following the mainstream curriculum.

The main aim of the EAL department is to enable EAL pupils to access the national curriculum in all subjects by:

- Developing the students' skills in English
- Helping students to become independent learners
- Assisting students in gaining knowledge and skills which will enrich their personal and professional lives
- Helping them to integrate into the new community
- Building their confidence in the mainstream classroom

All EAL students are supported in exams with bilingual dictionaries and those eligible are granted extra time for use.

Support sessions are now open for all students that are offered Heritage Languages GCSE available with exam boards. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the EAL Team at eal@brakenhale.co.uk



Dipartimento EAL (Inglese come lingua aggiuntiva)

Rivolto ad una varietà di studenti, il dipartimento EAL (Inglese come lingua aggiuntiva) offre supporto agli alunni con diversi livelli di competenza nell'ambito della lingua Inglese, favorendo l'accessibilità, e promuovendo il successo e l'indipendenza.

Lo scopo del dipartimento EAL è quello di offrire supporto ad alunni provenienti da diversi contesti culturali e linguistici mentre lavorano verso la padronanza della lingua Inglese, e allo stesso tempo seguendo il curriculum di studi tradizionale.

L'obiettivo principale del dipartimento di EAL è di consentire agli alunni che parlano Inglese come lingua aggiuntiva di accedere al curriculum di studi in tutte le materie trattate;

- Sviluppando la conoscenza dell'Inglese
- Aiutando gli studenti a diventare alunni indipendenti
- Aiutando gli studenti ad acquisire conoscenze ed abilità che arricchiranno la loro vita personale e professionale
- Aiutandoli ad integrarsi nella nuova comunità.
- Aiutandoli ad acquisire sicurezza in se' stessi all'interno della classe.

Tutti gli studenti EAL hanno il supporto di dizionari bilingue nei loro esami, ed agli alunni ritenuti idonei viene garantito del tempo supplementare durante questi stessi.

Sono ora aperte lezioni di sostegno per tutti gli studenti a cui sono offerti esami GCSE da sostenere nella propria lingua di appartenenza.

Per ulteriori informazioni non esitate a contattare il team EAL al seguente indirizzo email: eal@brakenhale.co.uk

PE Update

Hello everyone!

Interview with PE

Meet The Team No 2 - This weeks instalment of getting to know your PE Department is an interview with the New 2nd in PE Mr Maye

Competition Time

Brakenhale PE wants you to showcase your crazy skills Part 2!!! This week we are looking for consistency! Can you get 3 in a row? Remember to share with us your success!










NAME
Mr Maye

INITIALS
CMY

ROLE IN SCHOOL
2nd in PE

MAIN SPORT
Football

POSITION
Right Back or Center Back

GREATEST SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT
Achieving the English National Schools 100m Qualifying time 11.2 sec when I was at Brakenhale School AND Having 5 players ive coached in the last 5 years making their Oxford United 1st Team debuts

FAVOURITE SPORTING QUOTE
Hard Work beats talent, when talent doesn't work hard

SPORTING ROLE MODEL
My Brother - Head of Coaching at Aston Villa

MOST EMBARRASSING SPORTING MOMENT
In a charity game at the Valley home to Charlton Athletic, I took the ball off a former Premiership Striker who had just won our team a penalty and who was walking to take it himself...to take it off him and tell him I've never missed a penalty in normal time in a game..... Only then to put the ball several rows back from the roof of the Home supporters stand!!!!!! last penalty I've taken!!!

Email address
cmaye@brakenhale.co.uk

#teambrokenhale #brakenhalepe

Brakenhales Teachers Vs Students Step Challenge

Please continue to send all evidence to Miss Butler abutler@brakenhale.co.uk

Please check the school website for a weekly updated step count monitor:

<https://brakenhale.co.uk/pe-lockdown-challenge-january-2021/>

Please ensure that you are doing this challenge safely and within Government guidelines!!



Assessment: ME in PE

Your son/daughter will be assessed in 4 major areas, 2 per term, each known as a 'ME in PE'. These are:

- Physical ME (assessed every term, all throughout out the year)
- Social ME (assessed term 1 - September to December)
- Thinking ME (assessed term 2 - January to March)
- Leading ME (assessed term 3 - April to July)



Assessment criteria

'ME in PE'

Physical ME	
1	Executes the correct technical model for core skills in an isolated situation
2	Works in lesson to show effects of short term exercise on the body
3	Takes part in a tactical scenario set up and delivered by the teacher
4	Executes the correct technical model for advanced skills in an isolated situation
5	Executes the correct technical model for core skills in a conditioned situation
6	Works in lesson to show effects of steady state exercise on the body
7	Takes part in a tactical scenario taught by the teacher
8	Executes the correct technical model for advanced skills in a conditioned situation
9	Executes the correct technical model for core skills in a fully competitive situation
10	Works in lesson to show the effects of long term exercise on the body
11	Sets up and takes part in a tactical scenario on own
12	Executes the correct technical model for advanced skills in a fully competitive situation

'ME in PE'

Thinking ME	
1	Thinks of basic ways/ideas to increase creativity of own work
2	Thinks of basic ways/ideas to increase creativity of others' work
3	Makes basic comments on own work (positive and constructive)
4	Makes basic comments on other people's work (positive and constructive)
5	Thinks of imaginative ways/ideas to increase creativity of own work
6	Thinks of imaginative ways/ideas to increase creativity of others' work
7	Makes competent comments on own work (positive and constructive)
8	Makes competent comments on other people's work (positive and constructive)
9	Thinks of complex ways/ideas to increase creativity of own work
10	Thinks of complex ways/ideas to increase creativity of others' work
11	Applies ideas/thoughts/comments to own work (positive and constructive)
12	Applies ideas/thoughts/comments to other people's work (positive and constructive)

PE Champions of Week



PE CHAMPIONS OF THE WEEK

Week of: 25/1/21









Staff	Student	Tutor
Mr Potter	Hayden Mills	10E
Mr Maye	Amber-Rose Newhouse	11S
Mrs Lazarczuk	Shaan Ejaz	7H
Mr Boucher	Codey Fox	11S
Miss Rushby	Connor Pringle	10H
Ms Wilson	Lily Warner	10A
Miss Butler	Alexandra Bellini-Clark	7H

Well done!

#teambrokenhale #brakenhalepe

Mr M Potter, Head of PE

Mr C Maye, Second in PE

On Twitter & Instagram: @brakenhalepe

#teambrokenhale #brakenhalepe #bekind

Emotional Health and Wellbeing Webinars & Resources

From East Berkshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

Responding to popular request after our webinar and resources series last year we have put together an exciting menu of opportunities which offer the opportunity to enhance knowledge on Children and Young People (CYP) emotional health and wellbeing and improve their own wellbeing.

We have worked together with some of our key partners ie: public health, Talking Therapies, Kooth to help us support CYP. <https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/our-services/>

Kooth Sessions for Parents

Kooth are offering webinars aimed at parents - They will be 30 mins duration and an opportunity to understand Kooth as a support for their child. It will demonstrate the Kooth features and allow for questions.

If you are working with Parents you can email jfennessy@kooth.com for a link to the session. Alternatively if you have a group of Parents you can request your own dates /time if the following do not suit.

Kooth Parents Session 1 Wednesday 3rd February - 09:30am

Kooth Parents Session 2 Thursday 4th February - 18:00pm

Resources: The Little Blue Book of Sunshine

NHS Berkshire West and East Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) have relaunched the mental health booklet – the Little Blue Book of Sunshine. The book offers lots of practical and useful advice and aims to help children and young people by sharing lots of tips on how to deal with many problems, such as anxiety, stress, body image, relationships and anger. It also includes information about where to get help when they need it.



This year more than ever, anyone can sometimes feel down, worried or anxious because of a variety of situations like lockdown, school, family or friends. The #littlebluebookofsunshine explains some of the things teenagers can do right now to feel better, and who to turn to if things feel too much.

The booklet is also now available for free in Apple Books and Google (click images for links)

Apple Books

Google Play

Further information and download links are also available on our website here:

<https://www.eastberkshireccg.nhs.uk/your-health/mental-wellbeing-children-young-people/>

Resources: Coping – Guides for Children, Young People and Families

During the first lockdown, we worked with NHS East Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group to launch #Coping guides to help support children, young people and families. These are still useful resources during these uncertain times and can be downloaded below.

[#Coping – Family life during the lockdown](#)

Contains information on high-quality resources to support family life and parenting, with advice on keeping children entertained, looking after everyone's mental health and where to turn for extra help, including confidential helplines.

[Coping – Young people's guide](#)

Lists lots of useful self-help apps and websites, a range of resources, and national and local sources to support young people with their mental health.

Children and Young People's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week is taking place on 1-7 February 2021. This year's theme is Express Yourself.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/about-the-week/>

There is a range of information and activities:

Resources: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/schools-and-youth-groups/>

Fundraising: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/fundraising-kit/>

Online Conference: https://catalog.pesi.co.uk/sales/uk_w_031127_cmhw_organic-168341

Virtual Assembly: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/news/children-s-mental-health-week-assembly-with-bafta-kids-and-oak-national-academy/>

Our Frontline

A partnership between Shout, Samaritans, Mind, Hospice UK and The Royal Foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge offering round-the-clock one-to-one support, by call or text, from trained volunteers, plus resources, tips and ideas to look after your mental health.

<https://www.mentalhealththatwork.org.uk/ourfrontline/>

Parenting Special Children

Parenting Special Children are running the following events online via Zoom. They are free for Berkshire families or at a nominal cost. Please click on the highlighted event title for further information and to book.

PSC are working in partnership with Autism Berkshire to provide Autism and ADHD related support under the new 'Berkshire West Autism and ADHD Service'. You can see events provided by Autism Berkshire [here](#).

[Social Interaction Skills Group Course for West Berkshire Children and Young People](#)

A six week course for young people in mainstream education (aged 11 to 16, school year groups 7 to 11) with a diagnosis of Autism/ADHD, or who are awaiting an assessment, and registered with a GP practice in the West Berkshire NHS area (Reading, West Berkshire, Wokingham). The course will focus on independence, self-advocacy, friendships, self-esteem and knowing ourselves. Starting in February 2021. Please click the title above for further information.

On Demand Presentations

[Sleep Tips for Children and Young People \(age 8+\)](#)

A 12 minute presentation for children and young people (age 8+). Available to view on demand until 30 April. £2 per download.

[Sleep Tips for Teens](#)

A 40 minute presentation for teenagers who struggle with their sleep. Available to view on demand until 30 April. £2 per download.

For help and advice or if you just need to talk:

Helpline and Diagnosis Support Service (Mon – Thur, 10am – 2.30pm)

Tel: 0118 9863532, email: dss@parentingspecialchildren.co.uk

Trauma and Attachment Service

Tel: 07557 102623, email: tas@parentingspecialchildren.co.uk

Sleep Service

Email: sleep@parentingspecialchildren.co.uk

Community Support Groups

Tel: 07810 689679, email: supportgroups@parentingspecialchildren.co.uk

For any other enquiries please email admin@parentingspecialchildren.co.uk

Miss Manisier, Student Support

Literacy

How hard is the English language?

Tenses, homophones homonyms, homographs) - learning the English language is not easy!

Take a look at these and see for yourself.

Why English is so Hard

We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes,
But the plural of ox should be oxen, not oxes.
One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,
Yet the plural of moose should never be meese,
You may find a lone mouse or a whole nest of mice,
But the plural of house is houses, not hices.

If the plural of man is always called men,
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?
If I speak of a foot and you show me your feet,
And I give you a boot would a pair be called beet?
If one is a tooth, and a whole set are teeth,
Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?

Then one may be that and three would be those,
Yet hat in the plural would never be hose,
And the plural of cat is cats, not cose.
We speak of a brother, and also of brethren,
But though we say mother, we never say methren,
Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him,
But imagine the feminine she, shis and shim.



Why the English Language is so Hard to Learn

The bandage was **wound** around the **wound**.
The farm was used to **produce produce**.
The dump was so full that it had to **refuse** more **refuse**.
We must **polish** the **Polish** furniture.
He could **lead** if he would get the **lead** out.
The soldier decided to **desert** his **dessert** in the **desert**.
Since there is no time like the **present**, he thought it was
time to **present** the **present**.
At the army **base**, a **bass** was painted on the head of the **bass** drum.
When shot at, the **dove dove** into the bushes.
I did not **object** to the **object**.
The insurance was **invalid** for the **invalid**.
There was a **row** among the oarsmen about how to **row**.
They were too **close** to the door to **close** it.
The buck **does** funny things when the **does** are present.
A seamstress and a **sewer** fell down into a **sewer** line.
To help with planting, the farmer taught his **sow** to **sow**.
The **wind** was too strong to **wind** the sail.
After a **number** of injections my jaw got **number**.
Upon seeing the **tear** in the painting I shed a **tear**.
I had to **subject** the **subject** to a series of tests.
How can I **intimate** this to my most **intimate** friend?
I spent last **evening evening** out a pile of dirt.
I **read** it once and will **read** it again.
I **learned** much from this **learned** treatise.
I was **content** to note the **content** of the message.
The **Blessed** Virgin **blessed** her.
It's a bit **wicked** to over-trim a short **wicked** candle.
If he will **absent** himself we mark him **absent**.
I **incline** toward bypassing the **incline**.



Literacy Legend

Isobel Anderson - for her eagle eye on reverse sentences and the comma.

Mrs Lewis, Literacy Lead

Identity

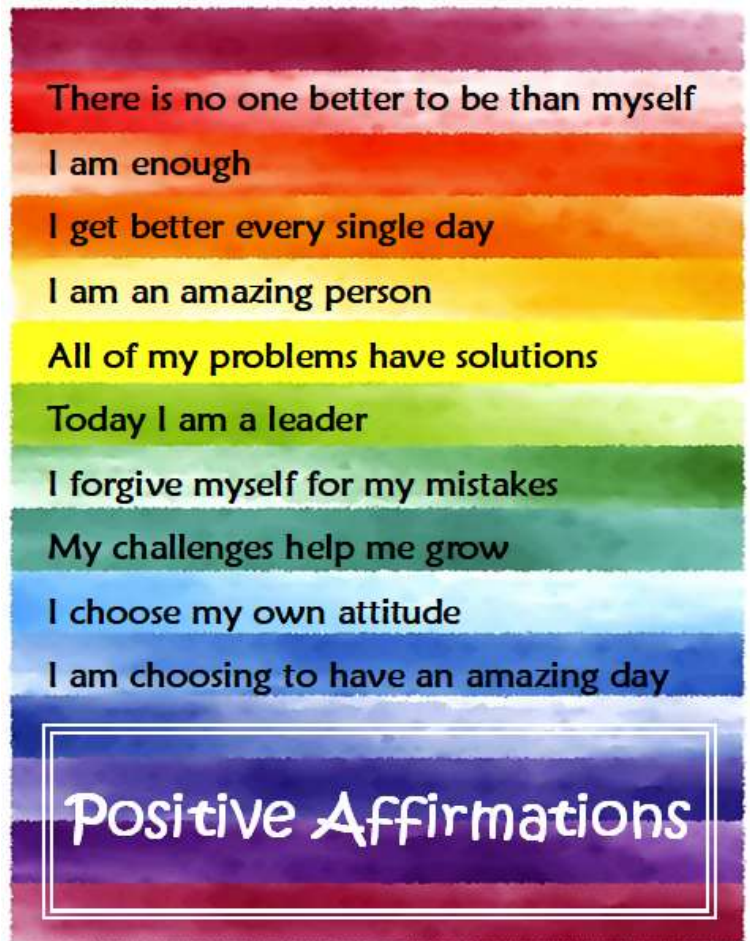
No matter how you look, where you live or what you look like, you all deserve to be the best you can be and become the best versions of yourselves.

Why not try saying these positive affirmations to yourself or in a mirror. You can do this as often as you feel necessary: every day or once a week.

If you want to read more about the benefits of self affirmation, follow this link:

<https://positivepsychology.com/daily-affirmations/>

It might feel quite strange to do this at first but that is because we are not used to always being positive or kind to ourselves. We must try and do this more so why not take the challenge and change how you view yourself. Like L'Oreal said, 'you're worth it!'.



Mrs Lewis, Identity

Attendance

If your son/daughter is unwell or has a medical appointment where they are unable to attend online/live lessons can you please inform us by sending a message via gateway or emailing attendance@brakenhale.co.uk.

We still need to report any students that have Covid-19 symptoms and if tested the results and if they are isolating due to a member of their household/bubble having a positive test.

If this is the case can you please complete the form on the following link:-

[Covid Notification Form](#)

The form can also be found on the front page of the school website.

Action for Happiness – Happier January

Happier January 2021 : <https://www.actionforhappiness.org/>

Daily actions to help you focus on what really matters:

How can we start this new year happier? Things have certainly not been easy over the last year, and we are still in difficult and uncertain times. The best way to try to handle our difficult emotions and experiences is by focusing on what we can control. This month, we're encouraging everyone to focus on small steps to try to boost happiness - for ourselves and others around us - to spread kindness and hopefully inspire others to do the same.

ACTION CALENDAR: HAPPIER JANUARY 2021

"Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony" - Gandhi

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
4 Write a list of things you feel grateful for in life and why	5 Look for the good in others and notice their strengths	6 Take five minutes to sit still and just breathe	7 Learn something new and share it with others	1 Find three good things to look forward to this year.	2 Make time today to do something kind for yourself	3 Do a kind act for someone else to help to brighten their day
11 Switch off all your tech 2 hours before bedtime	12 Connect with someone near you - share a smile or chat	13 Be gentle with yourself when you make mistakes	14 Take a different route today and see what you notice	8 Say positive things to the people you meet today	9 Get moving. Do something physically active (ideally outdoors)	10 Thank someone you're grateful to and tell them why
18 Focus on what's good, even if today feels tough	19 Get back in contact with an old friend you miss	20 Go to bed in good time and give yourself time to recharge	21 Take a small step towards an important goal	15 Eat healthy food which really nourishes you today	16 Get outside and notice five things that are beautiful	17 Contribute positively to a good cause or your community
25 Decide to lift people up rather than put them down	26 Say hello to a neighbour and get to know them better	27 Challenge your negative thoughts and look for the upside	28 Ask other people about things they've enjoyed recently	22 Try out something new to get out of your comfort zone	23 Plan something fun and invite others to join you	24 Put away digital devices and focus on being in the moment

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS www.actionforhappiness.org
 Happier · Kinder · Together

Learn more about this month's theme at www.actionforhappiness.org/happier-january

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.

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:

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/displayCharityCampaignPage.action?campaignId=9819&charityId=1018027>

Friends of Brakenhale

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.



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

Vacancies

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Teacher • English Teacher • Performing Arts Teacher • Maths / Economics Graduate 	<p>Please visit our website for more details: https://brakenhale.co.uk/about/vacancies/</p>
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Feedback Initiative

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

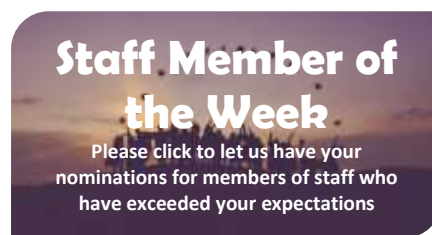
Electronic submission:



[Fab](#)



[Drab](#)



[Staff Member of the Week](#)

Future Diary Dates

** Please note that all events may be subject to change*

Monday 15 th to Friday 19 th February	Spring Half Term Break
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Term Dates

Term Dates 2020-21

SPRING TERM 2021

Tuesday 5th January – Thursday 1st April 2021

Spring Half Term - Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2021

Spring Holiday: Friday 2nd April to Friday 16th April 2021

(Good Friday 2nd April, Easter Monday 5th April)

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 Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September 2020
Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st July 2021

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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High Expectations and Challenge