Parent News: Friday 27th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Monday this week saw our Year 11 students arriving at school as if they were P16 students ready to take part in the Sixth Form Taster Day. Students enjoyed a range of new classes which they chose based on their initial thoughts about their options in September. Having observed a number of the lessons I am pleased to say how totally engaged students were in this new experience. We hope that this taster has given them a further idea about what to study in this next stage of their continued learning journey.

This week also saw a huge delivery of food and essential items to the Kerith Church Food Bank. I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who contributed to this and in particular to Ms Douse who coordinated the project.

Monday saw the first students access the brand new climbing wall, along with quite a few members of staff - luckily I only had my high heels with me but I have promised to bring my trainers to have a go! We are currently organising a number of bids in an attempt to gain further funding for outdoor table tennis equipment and a covered sheltered area within the grounds of the new school - more information to come!

As we now enter the last few school days of the current lockdown can I please remind you that it is mandatory

for students to wear a face mask in all communal areas; there are some students who are still arriving in school without these. Please can you support us by ensuring that students arrive in school with a mask. This will be reviewed on 2nd December. Secondly, we would be grateful if you could take an opportunity to discuss road safety with your children as we have received reports from residents that some students are walking in the road when cars are approaching, particularly in Rectory Lane and Chadwick Mews. Lastly, may we please remind Sixth Form students not to park in Chadwick Mews and we would ask you to be respectful and safe when dropping off students in roads around the school.

We are now really focussing on doing all we can to keep everyone's spirits up for the final three weeks of term and we are delighted to say that once again we have been lucky enough to be donated a fabulous Christmas tree by Oaktree Garden Centre. We thank them very much.



SLT Assemblies:

Mrs Powell has led assemblies this week to introduce our Head Students, alongside Miss Loj who has been outlining the variety of opportunities available within the School Council. The voice of our community is very important and we hope that many students will become even more involved in this area.

Student of the week:

Bethany Brazier in Year 12 gave amazing support for a student who was taken ill.

Rylie Cruikshanks in Year 8 for his kindness to another student. Rylie helped another student who was upset on the way home; he was polite and most helpful.

Staff member of the week:

Mrs Hughes Thank you for being an Amazing tutor and helping my daughter settle well into her tutor and

school.

Ms Young is a star who's come up with a plan for helping my young person catch up on their

learning, sharing the plan with me and rocking the online parents' evening system.

Miss Cullip

Her explanation (on School Gateway) of why she awarded our son his house points was really helpful and valuable for us at home. We were really pleased that his hard work and effort was acknowledged. Thank you!

Quote of the week:

To be kind is more important than to be right. Many times what people need is not a brilliant mind that speaks but a special heart that listens.

Have a great weekend.

Best wishes

Jane Coley, Headteacher

What's on next week

This year we have a 2 week timetable so there will be a week A and a week B. Next Week: A

Tuesday 1 st December	CCF Virtually, 3.30-5.30pm
Thursday 3 rd December	Year 12 Virtual Parents' Evening, 4-7pm

Thank you to Oaktree Garden Centre

We would like to say Merry Christmas and a huge THANK YOU to our local garden centre Oaktree for their generous donation of our atrium Christmas Tree and decorations.

It has really made our reception area look most festive and welcoming.

Independent retailers give our communities diversity, make them unique and give us something to love than can only be found in one place. Make the most of your community and shop locally this Christmas.







Character@Brakenhale: Character Challenge 2 – Community – Christmas Card

THERE IS STILL TIME TO GET YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS IN!

This half term Brakenhale would like you to join us in creating the Brakenhale Christmas Card with our Character Challenge - #community.

Design the Brakenhale Christmas Card and get into the Christmas spirit. 2 Community Points will be awarded for each entry and 10 Community Points for the Overall Winner. The winning entry will also be the official 2020 Brakenhale Christmas Card for Ms Coley to send out.

Students should submit their entries by **Friday 4**th **December**. Please remember that we will need to scan and print the winning card so the design should be suitable to be scanned in and then printed onto card. For example, large stuck on items may not scan well which will make the design unsuitable.

Please bring your cards to main reception. Please **ensure** that you put **your name** and tutor group on the back of your card so that points can be awarded.

We look forward to seeing all your entries.

Mr Beukes, Assistant Headteacher



Foodbank Collections

I want to say a massive thank you for your effort in helping us to get items for the foodbank in Bracknell. We had some lovely items donated by parents/students and staff and had three carloads of items to take to the foodbank. It's a lovely feeling knowing you've made a difference to people we don't even know on Christmas Day. I know when you sit down to have your own Christmas dinner, you will have a warm feeling knowing you've helped to make the same happen for another family.

Miss Douse, Head of Year 11



Hugo the Trainee Therapy Dog

Hugo's back in training (woof woof)

Hello everyone

It has been a pleasure to see you all welcome me back to school, my tail is very sore from all the wagging in excitement, I could not sit still it was wagging so hard. My hooman (that's 'human' in dog language) handlers are working me very hard in my training, and I feel this coming along really well. I have a lot of expectations to follow, and I have to make sure I get these right. Plus I get lots of treats if I do. (yum yum)

When I do really well, Mrs Holder likes to bring me in 'other' treats such as 'sprats' (whole dried fish) which makes Mrs Harris pull a funny face and spray me with doggy deodorant I've no idea why?!

Today, I was shown some pictures you all made me, letting all the students and staff know I was back in my classroom, all I can say is "woof woof" I think they are brilliant, and I loved seeing all the colourful pictures. I found some old footballs in a cupboard and was told they were donated by the PE department, so now I have lots to chew and to keep busy. A big thank you for those. I hope Mrs Harris has put on some Academic and Community house points for you?

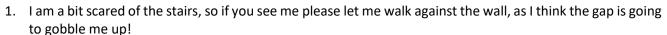
When my hooman handler Mrs Harris is at lunch, she thinks Mr Bury is chatting to students but he's actually playing footie with me and telling me I am in training for Chelsea FC. But my owner has told me it's for Tottenham, which one do you think I should go for?

I have enjoyed playing with many of you, and a big thanks for rolling my ball and playing football with me, I am getting really good as a goalkeeper, I like lots of fussing and stroking, I may just pop my head on your lap for some.

I have enjoyed taking part in my first Anti-Bullying awareness week, wearing odd socks. I did not know what on earth they were doing to me at first, I made them chase me around the classroom until I tried them out. I got a lot of yummy treats for wearing them, mine defiantly look better on me than Mrs Harris. (Shhh, don't tell her or my sprats may disappear!)

I am hoping to start to be around on some of your break

times at some point, but I have to make sure that I am safe outside, so I have some rules if you can remember to follow as this will help me.



- 2. The biggest rule is: I like my food but because many different foods can make me sick, I need all of you to try your utmost in putting all your rubbish in the bins provided. This does include plastic bottles, as I like to chew these, but the lids may come off, and I could swallow them.
- 3. I would like to ask all of you when you come and see me, that you have checked with my hooman handler that it is ok I don't like having big crowds around me, so please ask my hooman handler and they will recommend how many come to see me.

After my first few weeks, I was tired and I needed lots of naps, I was snoring very loudly, it has been a very busy time for me.

My goal is to do lots of fun learning with my training and do the best I can, and with all your support I know I can do this.

Hugo and his human (hooman) handlers - Mrs Harris and Mrs Holder

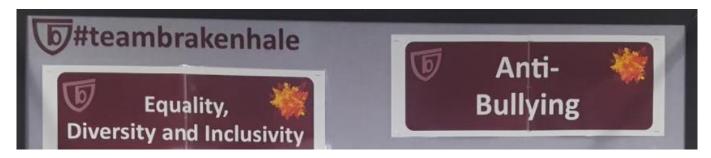


Wonderful Walls

We are continuing to promote our subjects, services and values around the school across the school community with various notice boards springing to life; Macbeth, Anti-Bullying, Librarians and Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity have all been added to this week.







Raising Money for Cancer Research UK

Isabella's Big Hair Cut

You will remember earlier in the month we told you about Isabella in Year 9 who is raising money in aid of Cancer Research UK by having her long hair cut short to send it to the Princess Trust Fund to make wigs for children and also to raise money for Cancer Research.

Isabella has already reached just over halfway to her goal so she's very excited.

Thank you all so much for your generosity and support with donations so far. It is gratefully appreciated.

Even a small donation could help Isabella reach her fundraising goal. And if you can't make a donation, it would be great if you could share the fundraiser to help spread the word.

If you are able to help Isabella reach her final goal please find the link here: GoFundMe

Christmas Lunch

We will be serving Christmas Lunch for students across 2 days this year. Dining will be by ticket only and tickets are now available to purchase via ParentPay.

Years 7, 10 and 11 will be on Wednesday 9th December and Years 8, 9 and Sixth Form on Thursday 10th December.

Please ensure you purchase your lunch by **Thursday 3rd December.**



School Dining Hall

Next week's menu (Monday 30th November) will be week 1:

Week 1	Monday	Allergen	Tuesday	Allergen	Wednesday	Allergen	Thursday	Allergen	Friday	Allergen
Option 1	BFA * Chinese Pork Stir-fry	Containing Gluten, Soybeans	BFA * Chicken Korma, Mango Chutney	Cereal Containing Gluten, Dairy	BFA * Roast Chicken Breast, Gravy	N/A	Beef Chilli Con Carne & Tortilla Chips	Containing Gluten	MSC * Battered Baked Fish Chicken Nuggets Sausage	Containing Gluten, Egg, Fish
Option 2	Vegetable Stir-fry & Spring rolls	Containing Gluten, Dairy	Vegetable Korma Naan Bread	Dairy Gluten	Three Beans Casserole	Gluten	Cauliflower & Broccoli Cheese Bake	Containing Gluten, Dairy	Margarita Pizza	Containing Gluten, Dairy
Carbohydrates	Noodles	Gluten, Egg	Basmati Rice	N/A	New Potatoes	N/A	Steamed Rice	N/A	Oven Chunky Chips	Containing gluten
Vegetables Of the day	Sweetcorn Carrots	N/A	Broccoli Cauliflower	N/A	Roasted Mixed Vegetables	N/A	Herby Courgettes & Sweetcorn	N/A	Garden Peas Baked Beans	N/A
Dessert	Syrup Sponge & Vanilla Custard	Containing Gluten, Egg, Dairy	Lemon Drizzle Cake	Dairy, Gluten, Egg	Apple Crumble & Cream	Containing Gluten, Dairy	Cocoa Muffins	Dairy, Gluten, Egg	Fresh Fruit Salad	N/A

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.

Taz Asran, Chef Manager

Anti Bullying Ambassadors

Hi my name is Lazar.

Although I have never had any personal experience with bullying I feel that I am able to sympathise with those who have previously or are currently experiencing this sort of behaviour from others, whether that be physical, verbal or cyber.

I am also aware of the mental and emotional impacts that this can have on someone. This is the reason I became an Anti-Bullying Ambassador. My belief is that all schools (including Brakenhale) should be a welcoming environment where students can feel safe and have the ability to speak about anything that they would deem a concern.

PE Update

PE Champions of Week



Mr M Potter, Head of PE

On Twitter & Instagram: @brakenhalepe #teambrakenhale #brakenhalepe #bekind

Lost Property

Please can we kindly remind all parents and students to name all items, including uniform, PE kits, water bottles, pencil cases, other tools for learning - EVERYTHING.

We have a member of staff dedicated to reuniting lost property with owners and she endeavours to return items daily. However, she is unable to return items to students without a name and items will be disposed of at regular intervals. *Email: lostproperty@brakenhale.co.uk*

All items of unnamed lost property will be given to charity at the end of term unless they have been collected.

Curriculum Support Reminders



Tools for Learning Face Masks

These are now temporarily available from the Book Room in the LRC on the first floor, 8.20am to 8.55am.

If you require anything else please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you.

Mrs McCrorie





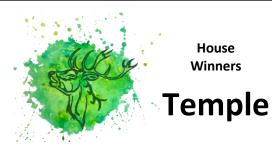
House Points this Week:

We continue to recognise the hard work that our students are doing through our House System by issuing House Points. Our House system remains very competitive so please check our communications for the latest placements of each house!

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

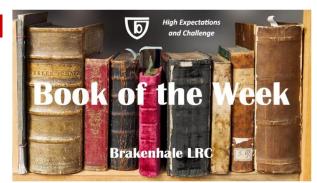
House Points								
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Total
Farley (BLUE)	291	203	210	61	24	7	5	801
Jennetts (YELLOW)	271	187	250	77	37	3	3	828
Swinley (RED)	280	222	218	82	41	5	0	848
Temple (GREEN)	276	255	223	74	25	5	0	858
Total	1118	867	901	294	127	20	8	3335





Book of the Week

Book:	Super SideKicks (No Adults Allowed)
Author:	Gavin Aung Than



Super heroes have it easy!

They don't have to clean their secret headquarters, wash the alien bloodstains out of their costumes or walk super mutt.

NO! They leave that for their sidekicks like ME, while they get all the credit!

I'm Junior Justice, but you can call me JJ, and it's time we made our own team.

About the Author

Gavin always dreamt of being a super hero when he was a kid. Now he is doing the next best thing, writing and drawing the adventures of the super sidekicks!

If he could choose, he would have the fighting ability of JJ, the brains of Dinomite, the flexibility of Goo, be able to fly like Flygirl and above all, have hair as beautiful as Captain Perfect.

Gavin lives in Perth, Western Australia with his wife, two daughters and two miniature schnauzers.

After working in the corporate graphic design industry for 8 years he quit his unfulfilling job and sold his house to follow his true passion: drawing comics.

Gavin launched Zen Pencils at the start of 2012, a cartoon blog which adapts inspirational quotes into comic stories, and hasn't looked back since.

Mrs Daniels, LRC Manager

Word of the Week



The what...

A key word will be selected from a scheme of work from each half term per subject. These key words will have been used in lessons and students will have seen them on knowledge organisers.



The Why... We want to test students' memory. • Can they remember which key words were used in which subject? • Can they remember which teacher introduced it/used it/ praised them for it? Stimuli Brain Working memory Processing Working Long-term memory

How it works

In lessons:

Staff will have introduced key words in lessons. Students may have had a chance to pronounce the key word correctly themselves in lessons and may have even been rewarded for using it!

Each half term, students will be sent a Google Form. Their job is to match the key words with the correct subject.

We will collate results and measure the impact that the key words are having on students' learning.

What we need from you

Please encourage Students to complete and send back the Google Form when they receive it.

If they have been successful, they will receive achievement points and a certificate.

Good luck!



Literacy: Hammer that Grammar

Hammer that Grammar: Issue 11

It's time to hammer our grammar skills.

Now, no one is perfect and it is OK not to know something but, together, we can improve, develop and become experts!

This week's focus: compound sentences

What is it?

A main clause + coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS) + a main clause

For example:

For	Reason	I went to bed early yesterday for I was tired.
A nd	Addition	I went shopping last week and my sister went to work.
Nor	And not	I will not go to bed nor will I go to sleep.
But	Contrast	This chair is old but it is comfortable.
O r	Options	Would you like tea or would you prefer coffee?
Y et	Outcome	He likes to play tennis yet his favourite sport is football.
S o	Result	I was very upset so I began to cry.

Can have

- Adjectives (describe the noun)
- Adverbs (describe the verb)
- Devices (verb choice can create a metaphor and a series of adjectives can create alliteration for example)
- Punctuation at the end for effect

Cannot have

• Subordinating conjunctions (ONAWHITEBUS + many, many more = only, nevertheless, although, whilst, however, if, therefore, even though, because, until, since)

Mrs D Lewis, Literacy Coordinator



Attendance

If the absence is in relation to coronavirus do not attend school if you have any of the following:

• A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).

• A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).

• A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

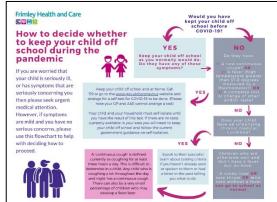
To find further guidance and advice you should take reference from relevant government and NHS guidance available at:

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss any issues that may be preventing regular attendance or causing lateness, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Silvey, Attendance Officer



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.



Action for Happiness

https://www.actionforhappiness.org/: New Ways November 2020 Daily actions to help you focus on what really matters:



Brakenhale 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.





effective way to raise money to improve our school. But we need your help to make the lottery the best it can be, so please support the lottery today - and who knows maybe you'll be the next winner!

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

Vacancies



- Assistant Headteacher
- Receptionist/Admin Assistant
- Maths / Economics Teacher
- Maths / Economics Graduate

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:





Staff Member of
the Week
Please click to let us have your
nominations for members of staff who
have exceeded your expectations

Fab Drab

Staff Member of the Week

Future Diary Dates

* Please note that all events may be subject to change

Wednesday 9 th December	Year 7, 10 and 11 Christmas Lunch
Thursday 10 th December	Year 8, 9 and Sixth Form Christmas Lunch Year 11 Virtual Parents' Evening, 4-8pm
Tuesday 15 th December	Year 7 Flu Vaccinations
Friday 18 th December	Christmas Jumper Day raising money for Daisy's Dream Last day of Autumn Term – students finish at 12.05pm
Monday 21 st December to Friday 1 st January	Christmas Holiday
Monday 4 th January 2021	Additional Inset Day

Term Dates

Term Dates 2020-21

AUTUMN TERM 2020

Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September 2020 Inset Days

Thursday 3rd September – Friday 18th December 2020

Autumn Half Term - Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2020

Christmas Holiday: Monday 21st December 2020 to Friday 1st January 2021

(Friday 1st January Bank Holiday)

Monday 4th January 2021 Additional Inset Day

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

Additional INSET Day Monday 4th January 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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