

# Brakenhale News



11<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Please remember that the Queen's Platinum Jubilee falls during the Summer half-term and all schools have therefore been allocated an additional day's holiday in celebration of it. For Brakenhale this additional holiday day will be on **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2022** added on to the Spring half-term.

There will therefore be **no school for staff or students**. School resumes on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

I hope this finds you well. As we approach the February half-term, please find a range of snippets from our school. As I relayed in my communication to you last week, since we have returned to school after the Christmas holidays, time seems to have flown by! However, it has been a busy one and this 'Brakenhale News' will give you an overview of a plethora of activities and events that have taken place this half term.

I am immensely proud of our students who, as I've narrated before, I see at the gate each morning, throughout the day and then, again, at the gate at the end of the day. Since Christmas, our communication has shifted, in many ways, to Golden Tickets. When students tell me they have not got one, I tell them they have five chances tomorrow! Golden Tickets, House Points, positive phone calls home, weekly Tutor Time prizes on a Friday and events such 'Hot Chocolate and Cake with the Headteacher' are five ways in which we recognise and reward our students. This is important to me and our teachers; we will continue to do this.

Just to reiterate what I shared last week, thank you to those of you who have given me feedback on the refinements we had made in January. For those of you who had spoken to me in person or on the phone, I hope you have been satisfied with the communication and / or conversations. Should any of you like to visit the school during the day and see our schools busy with their learning, please do get in touch with me ([headteacher@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:headteacher@brakenhale.co.uk)) and this can be arranged.

Only this afternoon, the local MP, James Sunderland, visited me and our school. Having conversed with him, he went on to have a discussion with a group of our Sixth Form students. After this, I had another 'Hot Chocolate and Cake with the Headteacher' event. Well done to those students who were nominated by their Heads of Year. There will be two more of these events next half term so many more students can be selected and invited.

As communicated to respective families, Year 11 and 13 have Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) over a fortnight starting on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022. We will continue to support students so they are best prepared for this. On Tuesday this week, exam boards released information for the summer exams so teachers and Heads of Departments have been busy planning. This will ensure the ten weeks or so before these exams, learning time is best utilised.

Next half term, we also have Year 9 Parents' Evening followed by 'Choices (Options) Evening' on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Respective families will get further information about this. It's an important time in the year as students will be making choices and decisions about their subjects in Years 10 and 11.

Can I wish all our students a restful break. I look forward to seeing everyone back on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. I hope you gain a real insight into our half term in the next 30 or so pages!

Yours faithfully,

*Mr Taylor, Headteacher*



Dear Parents/Carers and Students

Happy Half Term to all our students and parents / carers. It has been a positive and fruitful half term with nearly 6,000 Golden Tickets being issued to our students. The showcasing of Golden Tickets throughout the day, running up to show me with a fan of cards and the biggest smiles of some of our more reserved students has been magical to see. I cannot wait for the new term and more Golden Tickets to be issued to every single student in our community.

Please be reminded of our uniform and adornment expectations. During half term it might be tempting to change your appearance. To remind us: hair colour should be natural and with no extreme styles, nails should not be painted, fake eyelashes should be removed for school, there should only be the lower ear pierced once (no other piercings). Keeping this in your minds for when you return should ensure that everyone meets our high standards.

I'm hoping that you all have enjoyable half terms.

Best wishes,

*Ms Whitaker, Deputy Headteacher*

## Rewarding Students

*Ms H Whitaker, Deputy Headteacher*

### Hot Chocolate and Cake with the Headteacher! Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January

During lunchtime, Mr Taylor met 20 students from all year groups to congratulate them for their excellent start to this term and gaining a number of Gold Tickets. He was pleased to share how proud he was of their attitude to learning - long may this continue. Well done to all the students!

### Hot Chocolate and Cake with the Headteacher! Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February

Once again a select group of students from Years 7 right through to Year 13 met with Ms Whitaker and Mr Taylor for hot chocolate and cake in recognition of continued hard work and being awarded Golden Tickets.

Well done to you all!



## PSHE – Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

*Ms H Ioannidis, PSHE Coordinator*

During the first week of February representatives from Bracknell Forest Council delivered Drugs workshops to our Year 11 students.

### Mental Health, Online Safety & Cyber Bullying Message

Our Year 8 and 9 students were also delighted to have the opportunity to be entertained and inspired by ‘Hear at Last’, a band from all over the UK formed in 2019. Here at Last sold out their first headline UK tour and supported The Vamps on their UK tour dates. Having all had their own issues with cyber bullying and mental health, the boys are in the perfect position to deliver such a positive message to students and are excited to be given the opportunity to educate and inspire.



## Safeguarding Team

*Ms H Whitaker, Deputy Headteacher*

Brakenhale has an excellent system of student support from our dedicated teams. Any student requiring support can speak to their Form Tutor, Assistant Head of Year, Head of Year or chosen teacher.

## Safer Gaming

*Miss Manisier, Safeguarding Lead*

This week saw Safer Internet Day (8<sup>th</sup> February) and the NSPCC have a large range of information about online safety for children.

They suggested this webinar about gaming <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YO6Ux7qfYXk> for parents and carers:





## Languages Film Club

Ms M Santana, MFL Teacher

MFL is promoting a new film club every Wednesday in French and Spanish encouraging children to have fun while they are learning new expressions and vocabulary in those languages.



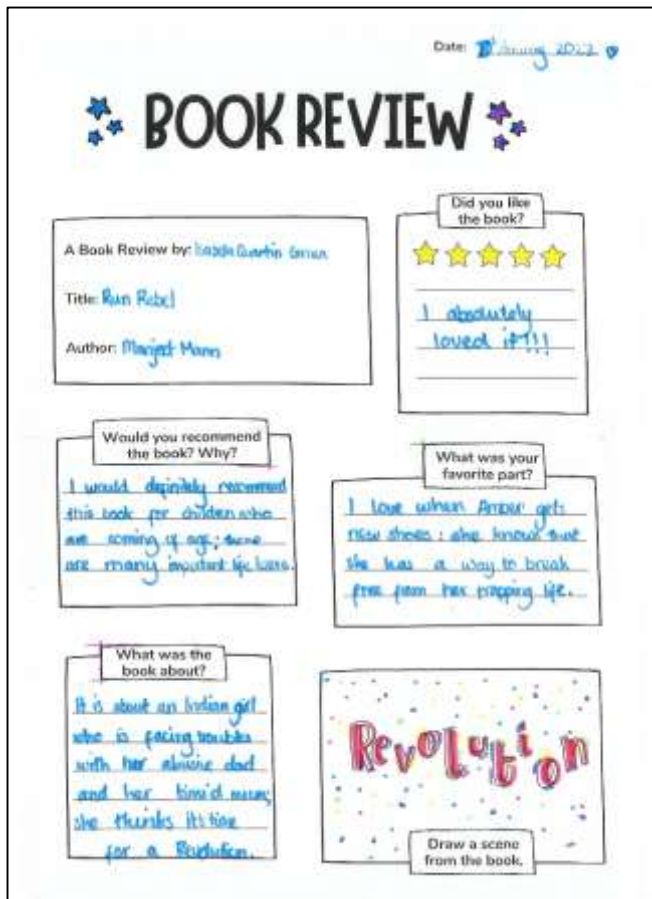
## KS3 Book Club

Mrs D Lewis, English

Key Stage 3 Book Club is going strong. We have read 'The Girl that Speaks Bear', 'Run, Rebel' and we are now reading 'Small Island'. Our meetings have been something I look forward to each month – where we get to discuss the themes, character and plot development and compare the different styles and genres we have read so far. The club is open to all abilities and runs once a month on selected dates in the LRC.

We would like to share our thoughts so far by sharing with you some of the reviews:





## Science Event

Mrs G Powell, Assistant Headteacher | Dr Flavia Belham, Chief Scientist, Seneca Learning

Cognitive Science is now in the forefront of education. But we know it can be tricky for parents to keep up-to-date with the latest research and tools.

Have you watched your child struggle with schoolwork? Would you like to know how best to help your child with learning?

That's why Seneca Learning is hosting a **free** webinar during half term exclusively for parents!

Empowering the Teaching Triangle: Student, Parent, and Teacher | Speaker: Patrice Bain

Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> February, 5.30 pm, online

Patrice Bain (@PatriceBain1), teacher and parent, has worked with cognitive scientists for over 15 years in identifying principles and strategies that increase learning and decrease anxiety. Author of Powerful Teaching: "Unleash the Science of Learning" and "A Parent's Guide to Powerful Teaching", Patrice will discuss evidence-based tools and strategies that work.

Free Webinar for parents!

Help your child learn more effectively!

A great way for you to understand how learning works, so you can best support your kids.

Free tickets: <https://bit.ly/Parents-Webinar-Learning>

15th Feb

SENeca

Patrice Bain  
@PatriceBain1

To take advantage of this great opportunity please use this link to register: <https://bit.ly/Parents-Webinar-Learning>



## Art Competition

### Brakenhale Art Department

We are delighted to once again invite Key Stage 3 students to participate in our Local Schools Art Competition, which this year we are theming to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. All details are on our [website here](#) including the template for entries (page 2 of the information). Below is a summary of the competition. Although the official poster has a different submission date we will be collating all our school entries together to send in one go so our **Brakenhale School Deadline is Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March**.

### Aim

Young artists are encouraged to create pieces of work that represent the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. The winning pieces will be displayed in the Ascot Heath Tunnel for the local community to view and enjoy during Royal Ascot and beyond. This is also a great opportunity to promote our local young people and schools whilst ensuring a cheery welcome for visitors to the course.

### Prizes

£1,000 will be awarded to the winning school, per age group category

£50 Amazon voucher will be awarded to each winning artist per age group category

£25 Amazon Voucher will be awarded to each runner up per age group

### Requirements

Each entry must be in landscape and completed on the attached template following the guidelines. NB. No portrait pictures.

The competition is open for KS3 only and the Brakenhale Schools entries are due by **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022** and should be handed into your Art Teachers to send on.

### Judging process

Post-deadline, a shortlist will be selected by Ascot’s CSR team. The aim is to then have these entries displayed at The Spring Family Raceday on Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022 where racegoers can vote for their favourite. The judges will also upload the shortlisted entries onto our website for online voting by the public. Winners will be announced at the end of April.

### Presentation

The aim and intention is to hold a presentation ceremony at our Victoria Cup Raceday on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2022 by the organisers. Further details will be communicated closer to the time.





## CCF

*Second Lieutenant Bury, Contingent Commander, Brakenhale School CCF/Forest School Leader*

Brakenhale School CCF cadets have again had a very busy return to cadet training this half term. The cadets have been learning the key skills of survival in preparation for the fieldcraft exercises they will be undertaking over the next few months.

Over the weekend of Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February a significant number of our cadets took part in a training course that provided them with the skills and knowledge to use, maintain and communicate effectively via British Army issued radio systems.

The course is designed to teach the cadets skills such as the phonetic alphabet and how to pronounce the letters correctly, the 24 hour clock and how to communicate Date/Time/Group effectively so that the receiving radio operator fully understands the message.

The cadets had lessons on communication security, security classifications and how the British Army radio systems fully work using different channels and settings. The cadets got to have hands on experience with the radio systems and then got to test each other on their radio skills via live practices.

The cadets were pleased to have passed the course as this now means that they will be able to use the Army radio systems on fieldcraft exercises making the whole cadet experience more realistic to what the British Army do when they are in the field.



## Forest School

*Ms Polanara, Forest School Support Assistant*

Our Forest School is going from strength to strength, and we are delighted with its progress!

We recently received a delivery of new saplings, including fruit trees and rose bushes, which have all been planted into our Forest School grounds, with the help of participating children. Hopefully these will be budding this spring, and give us fruits and flowers for us to enjoy in the upcoming months and years.

We had a new delivery of wood chippings, which we used to layer our paths, as well as to pad the ground at the bottom of our climbing trees for added safety. Our children were as amazing as usual, and of great help.

We subscribed to the RSPB School Birdwatch, which helps the RSPB keep count of garden birds in UK's school grounds; we will be soon distributing information sheets to students, so we can actively monitor our visiting birds, and send the relevant data to the RSPB for their survey.

We are looking to enhance biodiversity within our grounds, and hoping to install a few bird boxes in time for spring, some of which have been hand made by our students during our indoor sessions. The compost heap is also getting bigger, thanks to the endless supply of peelings provided by Mr Bury!

We also had a delivery of bug observer kits, which the students can use to study little critters close-up, though we will need to wait for the warmer months as most of them are now hibernating, or hiding from the cold.



Our beautiful pond, made from a reclaimed tractor wheel, and branches which were found in our woodland area, has also started attracting new life; we used supermarket bought watercress as an oxygenator, with great results. And finally, thanks to a kindly donated portable stove, we were able to make popcorn for the children to enjoy (though it did take a few attempts before getting it right), as well as make delicious hot chocolate with our kelly kettle.

We are looking forward to spring and have lots more activities planned! Watch this space!



## Short Story Competition

*Mrs D Lewis, English*

I would like you to join me in congratulating the following students. Their 'Twisted Tales' short stories have been successful and their work will be published. Actually, everyone that submitted their story was successful - a fantastic achievement!

- 'The Haunted Graveyard' by Sarah-Louise J
- 'Evil Queen' by Bryony T
- 'Little Nightmare' by Anthony E
- 'Siren Head' by Ethan H
- 'Goodbye World' by Kakun G
- 'Last Chance' by Isabella A
- 'Simply Misunderstood' by Peter R
- 'Haunted Hallows' by Callum B
- 'The Price to Pay' by Isabella QG
- 'Under the Mountain' by Daniela CS
- 'Memento Mori' by Joseph D
- 'Devil Night Caller' by Sophie E
- 'The Nightmare Devil' by Chloe S
- 'Flicker' by Chloe F
- 'A Sense of Belonging' by Daisy L

**Young Songwriter 2022**

**Who can enter?** Ages 8-18

**What is it?**  
The Young Songwriter competition is for both aspiring young songwriters who already have some experience as well as young people who want to write their first song.

**Why should I enter?**  
Your songs can be heard by leaders in the industry and be connected to a talented tribe of young songwriters across the world.

**Success Criteria:**  
The very best melody, lyric, structure, concept, harmony, mood and impact a song can have. Inspire others to speak up about things that are important to you and be heard! The three categories are lyrics, melody and chords with the 'S' factor - is it sensational?

**Interested?**  
It costs £10 to enter a song.  
Follow Song Academy on social media sites for tips and other opportunities like workshops and clubs.  
Find out more on their website [Song Academy](https://www.songacademy.co.uk/).  
Get in touch via [contact@songacademy.co.uk](mailto:contact@songacademy.co.uk) with any questions.

- Open for entries on 1st February 2022
- Closes on 31st March 2022
- Top 30 finalists announced on 20th April 2022
- Top 10 finalists announced on 08th May 2022
- Top 3 finalists announced on 13th June 2022
- Live showcase on Saturday 25th June 2022
- Release of the winner's album on 28th July 2022

<https://www.songacademy.co.uk/>





## Careers Update

*Ms J Lane, Head of Careers & Personal Development*

This term will see lots of careers activity as key events take place such as **National Careers Week** in March and **National Apprenticeship Week**, which took place this week (7<sup>th</sup> February). We raised awareness of Apprenticeships, in Year 7 - 11 PSHE lessons and I have attached a copy of a [presentation](#) for you to view as it contains some interesting 'Myth Busters' and links to some fantastic videos. I have also attached a great [resource](#) designed especially for parents and I hope you find this useful.

This [list](#) of 190+ current apprenticeship vacancies, covering a range of industries, will give parents an insight into some of the amazing apprenticeships available to students considering their Post-18 pathways. The types of roles and the salaries are very impressive!

Please also see a [letter](#) from the Minister for Skills that we have been asked to share with you.

**Year 7 and 8 - What Career?** is the focus for students in the lower years as they begin to learn about the exciting range of careers available to them, as well as careers that don't even exist currently as jobs of the future continue to develop and surprise us all!

**Year 9 - Options** approach after half term and students will be supported in their decision making by receiving information, advice and guidance about the career pathways available to them and how subject choices they make can influence these. I have attached a useful [document](#) with some of the key questions raised by young people and parents as they approach this stage.

**Year 10 - Post-16 Pathways** will be the main careers focus for Year 10 students and they will receive information, advice and guidance about the wide range of pathways available. The range of T-Levels continues to develop and our local colleges offer T-Levels in vocational pathways such as IT, Business, Health and more details on these can be found by watching this [video](#).

**Year 11 - 1-2-1 interviews** continue to take place as students make applications to local colleges and sixth forms. Year 11 students will be supported through this process with a focus on those students who have applied to Brakenhale Sixth Form as interviews commence shortly. The majority of students wishing to apply for a college place have completed these applications which means they are now in a position to work towards achieving the grades they need to secure the places on their chosen courses.

**Year 12 - Virtual Work Experience** is the focus for Year 12 this term as students are encouraged to apply for some of the exciting virtual offerings from organisations such as [Speakers4Schools](#). Students have the opportunity to engage with a range of employers across industries such as Engineering, Design, Architecture, Nursing and Law.

**Year 13 - Post-18 Pathways.** University applications have now closed and students will begin to receive offers for places at their chosen universities. Those students who are choosing the alternative to university are supported with information, advice and guidance on apprenticeships and the alternative pathways through 1-2-1 meetings and support from careers partners such as [Pathway CTM](#) who offer weekly 'drop-in' sessions where students can ask questions about applications and the interview process. This will be an ongoing process as students will find the window for applying for apprenticeships can run from now right through to the summer.



## Identity

*Mrs D Lewis, Identity*

### New Year Resolutions

This term in Identity we have been discussing New Year resolutions.

### Identity Monthly Meeting

Identity celebrated LGBTQ+ month by getting together and exploring the vocabulary used to specify different identities and playing Guess Who with a modern twist! Look out for our next meeting in the newsletter - all are welcome 😊

### Film Night

On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February in F10 Identity will be running a special film night watching 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie'.



## PE Update

*Mr Potter, Head of PE and Mr Maye, Second in PE*

This half term in the PE department, we have been super busy! The football season has kicked off with county cup and local East Berks league games taking place. Training sessions have been happening during Mates Participate after school and we have seen some excellent performances, but in the end some of the scores didn't go our way. A special mention must go to our Year 7 (U12) football team; they have done really well in the early stages of the county cup and have played some excellent football in their league games. The thing that I am most impressed with is that each year group has been able to field a full team with substitutes, showing the fantastic student commitment to our sporting fixtures.

'Mates Participate' has seen a bit of a low uptake in half term 3, which I think has been down to the dark nights and cold weather. However there is a core body of students who have been gyming, footballing, trampolining and netballing each week which has been great to see. Mates Participate runs from Tuesday to Friday every week after school for all students to attend, so don't be shy and come along!

We have also seen our indoor athletics team compete in the Bracknell Forest Secondary Schools competition, where we came 4<sup>th</sup> out of all 7 Bracknell Schools. The team consisted of students from Years 7 and 8 who performed superbly.

Our sports leaders have also been in action. Our Year 10 sports leaders attended the Year 5 and 6 Primary Indoor Athletics competition in January, followed by supporting the secondary school events as well. There was some lovely feedback on the leaders and how they engaged and worked with the Year 5 and 6 students from the local primary school. Our Year 9 students will be out leading after half term on the Year 3 and 4 Primary Indoor Athletics event towards the end of February. Not to forget our Year 12 Sports Leaders who have been down to Wildridings School as part of their course to deliver some amazing Hockey lessons to the students with some great feedback being received!

In PE lessons this term, we have moved onto our THINKING ME - providing students with the opportunity to go above and beyond their physical skills, getting their brains working to develop skills including performance analysis and evaluation, creative ways and ideas in lesson and wider and broader thinking about how PE can help us as people rather than sports athletes.

I am really looking forward to half term 4, and getting more students to Mates Participate after school when the weather gets a little warmer and the mornings and evenings get lighter, as well as some indoor cricket taking place for our lower school students.

Have a great half term week, stay warm and stay active!

Many thanks and don't forget to follow us on social media - @brakenhalepe on twitter and instagram.

PE CHAMPIONS Spring Half Term 3 - WELL DONE!			
	Week beginning: 29/1/22	Week beginning: 17/1/22	Week beginning: 26/1/22
Staff	Student	Tutor	Student
Mr Potter	Cary M	9K	Alexander D
Mrs Laczuszk	Rachel S	P10B	Charlotte D
Mr Maye	Kaitia R	16A	Zack D & Bernard I
Mr Beacher	Fisher T	10K	Sarah E
Ms Wilson	Tess D	9B	Elysa Z
Miss Barber	Olivia I	10R	Cleo M
Mr Collins	Emilia M	10E	Karol O
	Week beginning: 21/1/22	Week beginning: 7/2/22	
Staff	Student	Tutor	Student
Mr Potter	Samy C	11A	Ladara R
Mrs Laczuszk	Sandra H	9B	Eva H
Mr Maye	Oliver H	7B	Franky R
Mr Beacher	Jaden L	9K	Jack W
Ms Wilson	Grace M	11A	Nancy Ota S
Miss Barber	Anita White	7A	Scarlet W
Mr Collins	Sophie K	9E	Isabella L

#teambrakenhale #brakenhalepe





## Dear Year 7 Parents/Carers and Students

Here we are again, at the end of another half term. The days are getting longer and despite it being a shorter half term, Year 7 students have accomplished so much this term. Year 7 continues to have the best attendance in the school, your uniform continues to be immaculate, and your attitude and behaviour in lessons continue to support your learning. It has been a golden half term with students being rewarded with golden tickets by staff for various reasons. Every single day, students approach lessons and learning with a positive attitude, positive mindset and have been rewarded.

Tutor Group	Points Value	Number of Tickets
7N	625	125
7A	610	122
7H	605	121
7K	605	121
7R	595	119
7E	555	111
7B	550	110

Well done to 7N who have topped 7A. This healthy competition will continue next half term, let's see if 7N keeps up with this momentum or if 7H or 7K will take over.

Year 7 students continue to dominate the leader board with homework completion. Well done, and make sure you do your Sparx straight away so you can relax for the rest of the half term break.

As we return after the half term, please make sure you have all your equipment ready for learning. Remind your parents if you need to get new school shoes, and make sure you have your ties ready. We return on Tuesday, so you get an additional day off, and we return on Week A.

You have completed half of your first year at secondary school. The other half will go flying, and before you know it, we will be at the end of the school year. But until we get there, have a fantastic half term break, and whatever you do, stay safe.



*Ms Douse, Head of Year 7 and Miss Appleton, Assistant Head of Year 7*

## Dear Year 8 Parents/Carers and Students

Dear Parents / Carers,

We have come to the end of another half term and it is hard to believe that the time has gone so quickly. This term always starts off by being somewhat challenging. The weather is at its coldest and darkest and Christmas has come and gone, leaving us feeling some slight January blues. However, Year 8 students have absolutely hit the ground running and done a tremendous job of thriving in many ways. As we start to come out of the Winter period, I really look forward to what is ahead for Year 8. However it is important to reflect and celebrate the great successes that we have had this half term so far.

This term we introduced Golden Tickets. The purpose of Golden Tickets is simple: to recognise students for their hard work. The very high majority of students in Year 8 get it right every single day and make tremendous progress. It's important that these individuals feel valued and appreciated for the positive impact that they have

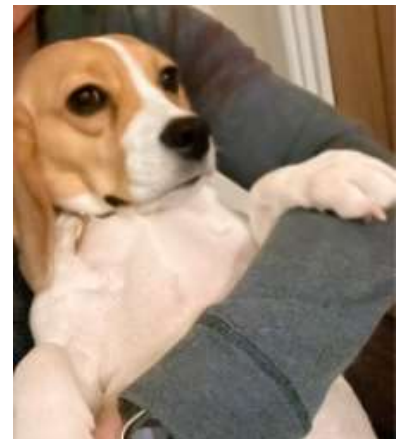


on our school community. Not only that, but even those that struggle to get it right all of the time, do still get it right some of the time. It's important that they too receive recognition and praise for whenever they do. I knew that Golden Tickets would be a great thing for our school, but I truly underestimated the positive impact that they would have on our school culture. It has been a pleasure to see so many Year 8 students battling it out to get the most golden tickets. I never get fed up with students approaching me to tell me about their golden ticket and how they achieved it. There are a number of students who have achieved an incredible amount of golden tickets so far that I must recognise and shine a light on. This changes every day, so often it is too close to call but as of this writing, the current leaderboard stands as attached. A massive congratulations to these students but also to all of our students who have managed to obtain one so far.

1. Isabella QC - 15
2. Zoe P - 12
3. Sasha P - 11
4. Caitlin M - 11
5. Callum B - 11
6. Alfie B - 10
7. Ryan H - 10
8. Bobby D - 9
9. Florence B - 9
10. Jayden W - 9
11. Lewis J - 9
12. Chloe S - 9
13. James H - 9

In addition to this, I always say to Year 8 about how I very much view them as the top year group in the school and my expectation is that we as a year group should have the most achievement points out of all year groups. The beginning of the academic year did not start off so well and we were in third place for achievement points, behind Year 7 and Year 9. This was simply not good enough and we needed to claw this back. I am delighted that we are now well ahead of Year 9 (as we should be), with a total of 24,510 points compared to 21,577 for Year 9. However, we still have a bit of work to do with Year 7 as they are still in the lead with 26, 210, as of this writing. This is not an impossible target to beat and we can completely do this by the end of the academic year. Please do encourage your child to play their part in making this happen. This would be a tremendous achievement if we could pull it off, which I certainly believe we can.

I would like to wish all our Brakenhale families a much deserved, restful half term holiday. Please be safe and focus on being refreshed for the upcoming half term ahead of us. As a community, we have much to be proud of over the last half term and much to look forward to over the coming weeks when we come back. It will be brighter and warmer, which is always a plus! The February half term is always one I like to keep relatively free and unplanned, as the Christmas holidays are always so busy! Unfortunately, Bayley won't get much lounging around time! A recent vet visit resulted in Bayley being told that she's carrying a little extra holiday weight and needs to lose 1kg. So we are now in "Beagle bikini body mode" and there will be lots and lots of walking! I'm sure she will be desperate for me to return to work by the end of the week!



*Mr McKane, Head of Year 8 / Associate Assistant Headteacher and Mr Collins, Assistant Head of Year 8*

## Dear Year 9 Parents/Carers and Students

This has been one of the shortest terms of the school year but as it included January, which I'm certain was at least 87 days long, it feels like Christmas was a lifetime ago! There have been a lot of changes this term, but Year 9 have taken to them like absolute troopers. I have said it to the students before, but I will repeat myself. Having the opportunity at lesson changeovers to see the other year groups line up, Year 9 are consistently the best at this in the school. It is fantastic to see how quickly they have adapted to this, and how well they are representing their year group (widely regarded as the best year group... by me).

With the addition of golden tickets our achievement points this term have gone through the roof. At the time of writing (Wednesday) we have 8334 points total for this half term, including 743 Golden Tickets. A big well done



from me to everyone who has achieved any points this half term - it's been hard graft and they have worked hard and kept positive. Who will be the top achiever next term? I am looking forward to breakfast on Friday morning with the tutor group who have the most golden tickets this term - it's very close at the moment, every time I check a different tutor is in the lead!

Tutor group achievement points	
9B	1250
9R	1529
9A	1136
9K	1471
9E	966
9N	885
9H	1095

Top ten student achievers this half term	
Danielle D 9R	81
Lucas C 9B	81
Connor S 9B	81
Ella-Ann C 9B	84
Rylie C 9R	88
Ciara S 9K	91
Caitlyn I 9R	93
Maizy C 9K	93
Ollie H 9R	98
Reece H 9R	141

Top ten student achievers this year	
Maizy C 9K	402
Reece H 9R	378
Rylie C 9R	307
Liam J 9K	273
Teddy E 9R	259
Fabrizio AT 9A	248
Connor S 9B	246
Jack P 9B	236
Jaida RW 9A	197
Aliza B 9K	188

Next half term is probably the most important in the lives of Year 9 so far. We have a lot of big dates coming up, and a lot of big decisions to make. Choosing GCSE options is a really important time, and making sure we make the right choices is imperative. To aid with this we have the entire half term to make these choices, and lots of time for parents, students and staff to discuss.

#### **Thursday 3rd March - Virtual Parents Evening 4pm - 8pm**

This is an opportunity for parents and students to discuss how students are doing in their subjects, which will help towards options choices.

I am looking into whether it is possible to open appointments with me not used by my Year 9 Science class as pastoral meetings. These will be on a first come first served basis - watch this space and I will let you know if it is doable within the confines of the online system.

#### **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March – In-person Choices Evening - 5.30pm to 7pm**

I am aware that the last time parents of Year 9 students were able to come into the school was the Year 7 “meet the tutor evening” in September 2019, which is an incredibly long time ago! I would like to invite you all into the school to meet with options staff and help you get an overview of which subjects your child is looking to take next year.

More information will be sent home about options after half term, but as an overview, all students will have chosen their preferred subjects before the Easter holidays, and they will be confirmed in the second half of the summer term.

I hope you all have an exciting, yet still restful half term, and I look forward to welcoming Year 9 back on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

*Miss Turner, Head of Year 9 and Miss Manning, Assistant Head of Year 9*





## Dear Year 10 Parents/Carers and Students

Another half term down in our Key Stage 4 journey towards becoming 'race ready'! If we start to consider the context of what this actually means, we are now at the point where we have approximately 15 calendar months left until you will sit the bulk of your exams. For some this will be sooner, and for a select few you have already sat an actual exam that will count towards your final grade! If we take out school holidays then this will mean we have even fewer months. It is really important that we start to recognise that time is moving forward and the start line gets closer every day, so you need to make sure you are maximising the opportunities you have to ensure you are successful.

It is very clear from the conversations we have with your teachers that you have settled well into the subjects that you chose to study over the next two years. It is now about making sure you build on this foundation that you have laid over the last term and half to reach as high as you possibly can. It is about utilising every minute of a lesson and your teacher to ensure that you fully understand what is being taught to you, that you are able to convert that knowledge in the correct way to answer an exam question. Your teachers are the experts of their subject and have years and a wealth of experiences to help you achieve your full potential. They are here to assist you in doing this if you ask them to, and if you always display appropriate behaviour in their lessons. We know you are the best year group in the school and continue to show us this every single day. Continue to show us this and you are all destined for great things, whatever that may be for you in the future, but you will only get there if we all work together. Remember, I'll say it all year, every lesson is a chance to practise and train, but you can only practise and train if you understand what you are supposed to be doing. You are the only person accountable for your behaviour and for your own practice, if you are not getting this right now, it will have an impact in the future.



On the topic of practice, it is really important that you recognise the unique opportunity that homework provides you with. We understand that homework may not be at the top of your priority list, and you probably see it more as an inconvenience than a benefit, however it does provide you with time to really demonstrate that you have understood the topics or concepts your teachers have taught you, or that you are mastering your exam technique so that you can gain maximum marks in assessments and tests. This also provides your teachers with the opportunity to offer you individual feedback on how to help you progress, and ultimately will enable you to go on and be successful, so we would encourage you to complete all your homework to the best of your ability and get it handed in on time, just so you can continue to show your teachers how amazing you are, and how much potential you have.

So far over this academic year there have been loads of achievement points handed out to you as a Year group, and this tells us that you continue to get it right, day in and day out. Below is a quick summary of how the tutor competition is going, and I cannot remember a year where it has been this close.

10R	10B	10N	10A	10K	10E	10H
2398	2373	2343	2190	2166	2013	1835

Since we returned from Christmas, you have had the opportunity to achieve a Golden Ticket in every lesson and it has been amazing how many have been given out to Year 10 students and how proud you are to get them. It has honestly been astounding the number of you who have told me you have got one, and how proud you are of this fact, especially your first ones. A special mention goes to 10N, who as a tutor group have managed to receive 158 Golden Tickets this half term, with 10K in second place with 127 Golden Tickets received and in third is 10E with 121 Golden Tickets. A massive well done to these three tutor groups, what a phenomenal effort.



Continue to go out each day and achieve to the best of your ability. Keep getting all those house points! Also, make sure you learn from past mistakes and do not allow them to stop you progressing. Understand where it went wrong, and make sure it doesn't happen again. Remember, you know what it means for you to be successful at the end of your exams, you know what you need or want to achieve, it is down to you to ensure you reach that success, so make sure you take responsibility for your learning and behaviour and go out there and succeed.

Have a restful and great half term Year 10, and we look forward to welcoming you back, hopefully well rested and ready to go again for another half term!

*Mr Hilton, Head of Year 10 and Mr Boucher, Assistant Head of Year 10*

## Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers and Students

Here we are at the end of another half term and what a great half term it has been. Well done for all your efforts during such a difficult term where the mornings and afternoons are dark and days are cold! Your motivation and focus levels have remained high throughout. You have shown great commitment and resilience towards your studies, with your upcoming GCSE exam just around the corner (45 days to be exact) and we are full steam ahead. All of your teachers including Mrs Palmer, Mrs Lister, Mr Taylor and I are so proud to see so many of you trying your best day in day out. This is reflected in the amount of golden tickets that you have been awarded with. It is wonderful to walk around your lessons and see you engaging in lessons and working hard. It saddens me to think that we are nearly at the end of our KS4 journey but we are all so excited to see where your next chapters will take you and what the future holds for each and every one of you. Keep going Year 11, we all want you to go on and be the best versions of yourself and make a difference in today's society, and we all know you can do it!

### PPEs

Your conduct during your first full set of PPEs in November was exemplary. Your business-like and professional conduct was also noted by the invigilators who reported that you were the best year group they've worked with in all the years they have been invigilating exams. It is imperative you maintain this in your next round of PPEs which begin on Monday 28th February. Some of you may be anxious or worried about your upcoming PPEs, please remember these are a practice for your real GCSEs and they allow your teachers and you to check where the gaps are in your knowledge. This will enable your teachers to work on these areas to become strengths. All we can ask is that you try your best and answer all the questions to the best of your ability.

### Revision

You should be spending some part of your half term revising for your PPEs, please ensure you've created a revision plan and try to stick to it. We are not encouraging you to spend the whole half term studying, rather creating a plan that includes rest breaks, activities and study. Please remember to use the techniques which were shared with you when we had Mr Ambrose in from GLT; the Cornell notes, flash cards and mind maps. You have all been given a lovely revision goodie bag to take away with you for half term. Please use the revision resources and if you require any more please go to Mrs Daniels in the LRC who can issue you with more.

Mrs Palmer and I are busy organising your end of year celebrations, which include the year book, leavers hoodies and Prom... yes PROM!! We have a provisional date for the prom which is at the end of June. We are making final arrangements before we inform you all of the official date. Please make sure you have your dresses and suits at the ready! We are so looking forward to celebrating everything you have achieved while you have been at Brakenhale.





**Brakenhale School - Year 11 PPE (Pre Public Exams): February / March 2022**

Week B	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> March
Revision	Turbo tutor	Turbo Tutor	Turbo Tutor	Turbo Tutor	Turbo Tutor
Period 1 & 2	English Literature - 1 Hr 45	History - 1 Hr 15 Everyone else in normal lessons	Maths - 1 Hr 30 Non Calculator	Combined Science: Chemistry - 1 Hr 15	English Language Paper 2 - 1 Hour
Period 3 & 4	Normal lessons	Normal Lessons	Business GCSE - 1 Hr 30 Computer Sci 1- Hr 30 Dance Practical in MS - 2 Hr Everyone else in normal lessons	IT OCR - 1Hr 45 Economics - 1Hr 30Hr Hospitality - 1Hr 30 DT - 2 Hr Everyone else in normal lessons	Maths - 1 Hr 30 Calculator
Period 5	Combined Science: Biology - 1 Hr 15	Geography - 1 Hr 15 Everyone else in normal lessons	BTEC Dance Practical in MS - 2 Hr Everyone else in normal lessons	GCSE PE - 1 Hr Everyone else in normal lessons	Normal Lessons

Week A	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> March
Revision	Turbo Tutor	Turbo Tutor	Turbo Tutor	Turbo Tutor	Turbo Tutor
Period 1 & 2	Computer Science – Paper 2 - 1 Hr 30 BTEC Dance - 1Hr 30 GCSE Dance - 1Hr 30 GCSE Drama - 1Hr 45 Everyone else in normal lessons	Maths - 1 Hr 30 Calculator	French - F/W - 1Hr H/W - 1 Hr 15 F/R - 45 min H/R - 1 Hr Spanish F/W - 1Hr H/W 1 - Hr 15 F/R - 1Hr H/R - 1 Hr 15 Textiles All Day G05 Everyone else in normal lessons	PE – Paper 2 - 1 Hr Photography 11D All Day B17 Arabic/Russian – Writing 1 Hr 25 Urdu/ Yr 10 Spanish / Chinese Writing - 1 Hr 15 Media - 1 Hr 30 Everyone else in normal lessons	Media Paper 2 F20 – 1 Hr 30 Religious Studies - 2 Hr Everyone else in normal lessons
Period 3 & 4	Normal Lessons	Normal Lessons	GCSE Business – Paper 2 1 Hr 30 Textiles All day G05 Everyone else in normal lessons	Photography 11D - All Day B17 Arabic/Russian – Reading 1 Hr 5 Urdu/Spanish/Chinese Reading 1 Hr Everyone else in normal lessons	Normal Lessons
Period 5	History – Paper 2 55 min Everyone else in normal lessons	Combined Science: Physics F/H 1 Hr 15	Textiles All Day – G05 Everyone else in normal lessons	Photography 11D All Day B17 Everyone else in normal lessons	Normal Lessons





Week B	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March
Period 1 & 2	<b>Photography 11A B17</b> <b>Art 11D A02</b>  <b>All other students in normal lessons</b>	<b>MFL Speaking Exams:</b> Individualised times to be relayed for respective teachers  <b>All other students in normal lessons</b>			<b>Art 11A G04</b>  <b>All other students in normal lessons</b>
Period 3 & 4					
Period 5					

Finally, we would like to commend you once again for all your hard work not only this term but since the start of Year 11. Enjoy your half term and take this time to rest and do things you enjoy as well as revising. Be kind to those around you and ensure you are supportive of one another. You have no idea the difference between a simple check in 'hi, how are you?' can make.

Have a lovely half term.

*Miss Wilson, Head of Year 11 and Mrs Palmer, Assistant Head of Year 11*

## Dear Sixth Form Parents/Carers and Students

Dear Sixth Form/Parents/Carers,

It is hard to believe that another half term has already come to an end. At the beginning of this term, many of you have undertaken resolutions to try new things or make changes to help transform into a better version of yourself. In either case, both fit perfectly into our Sixth Form ethos of 'take opportunities'. We hope that you continue to embrace this mindset for the remainder of the academic year.

One of the new opportunities which we have been encouraging you to reflect upon is virtual work experience. This gives students the opportunity to delve into an area which they are passionate about, develop industry specific skills and engage with big name employers, therefore creating networking links. Ultimately, this will increase the chances of employability, and being accepted onto a university course or apprenticeship. A reminder that Year 12 has up until April 2022 to complete one of these courses. Some of the sessions taking place over half term include employers such as TESCO, Bentley, VisitEngland, the NHS, AXA, and Microsoft. A number of students have already been accepted onto courses as shown below. We are excited to hear about the experience when we return to school!

Kyle M - Bentley

Holly W, Lily P, Grace T, Emilie D - TESCO

Erica R - Creative Portal

Keisha R - British Army

Mia W, Madison O - NHS

Ali A - High Tide Foundation

Ethan V - Gatwick Airport

Ariana K-R - Direct Marketing Association

Our Year 13s have had great success with over 60 offers from Universities such as Queen Mary, Loughborough, Kingston, Royal Veterinary College, King's College, Nottingham, Surrey and many, many more. Our other Year 13s are hard at work finding apprenticeships and jobs as well as revising for their upcoming exams. Our BTEC students have begun their exams already and have shown absolute brilliance with their drive and determination,



effective revision and support for each other. We recognise the pressure that these students are under and have built up our enrichment program to support them in this period of their lives. We have been making further contact with more mental health support to ensure that our students receive every opportunity to succeed.

Once again, we have been able to deliver high quality PSHE sessions. We hope that these assemblies have been useful to students as we strive to help support their development into adulthood and give them the chance to unpick complex issues. This term was focused on expanding students' horizons and stress management. In the first session students were given guidance on financial management, with advice that was pertinent to both their present circumstances and their future. We then had the opportunity to have a session on the importance of sleep, followed by an interactive session of yoganetra. The half term ended with an assembly focused on travelling the globe and the complexities of working abroad.



As a year team, we often focus on pushing you to achieve academic excellence because we want you to have as many opportunities as possible to make your dreams a reality. However, excellence comes in different forms. So many of you are always doing the right thing: being punctual, coming to school with a positive mindset, attending your lessons, and engaging with the tutor programme. This form of consistency deserves to be acknowledged. We have asked your tutors to nominate 1 person who is always getting it right and who deserves the title of tutee of the half term. Please see below the winners - Well done to everyone who was nominated!

Tutor Group	Tutee of the half term
P16B - Miss Lind & Miss Young	Kuba B
P16R - Miss Millard	William D
P16A - Miss Ocana & Miss Ioannidis	Lewis E
P16K - Miss Joyce	Rachel L
P16E - Miss Wilhelmy	Lily-Mai D
P16N - Miss Bunkell	Thomas B-H


On the topic of excellence, we have had some Year 12s step up and take on positions of student leadership. Anastasia and Hristina have begun running a new club on Tuesday at lunchtime which celebrates and raises awareness about multiculturalism. If you are interested in joining or attending a session, please come to S04. Everyone is welcome!

Keep working hard - your resilience, hard work, and commitment to succeed will pay off. When we return from half term, privilege passes will be redistributed based on the analysis of your most recent AP2 data and attendance figures. There are many students whose passes have been upgraded - a clear illustration that commitment to bettering your academic progression goes pay off! A gentle reminder that each level of privilege pass has certain allowances and expectations. They are outlined below. Please familiarise yourself with them to avoid confusion and to avoid unintentionally truanting a private study session.



Level	Allowances
Platinum	Student has complete independence and must only come in for lessons on timetable
Gold	Students need to be in school for p3 and p4 and when they have a lesson on their timetable. They can leave school site at break and lunch.
Silver	Students must be in school from 8:40 to p4 every day. They can leave school site at break and lunch.
Bronze	Students must be in school from 8:40 to 3:05 every day. They can leave school site at break and lunch.
Red	Students must be in school from 8:40 to 3:05 every day. They cannot leave school site at break or lunch.

Beginning the week of Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February, and lasting for 2 weeks, the Year 13s will be beginning their second set of PPEs. Year 13 will be off timetable for the first week unless students are required to attend BTEC lessons in the absence of an exam in that subject. For the second week students will be expected to be in lessons unless they're in an exam - this will ensure that students avoid missing out on too many lessons. While it is important to take time for yourself this half term, please remember to be revising for your upcoming exams. Your teachers should have already given you guidance on what topics to revise, and exam technique/recommendations. Familiarise yourself with your exam timetable (attached below) so that you know what to prioritise. And remember, if you are struggling, please remember to ask for help!

 Brakenhale School Year 13 PPE (Pre Public Exams)

Week B	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> March
Period 1 & 2	<p><b>RS Buddhism</b> 13D/Rs (13) - LHI 1 Hr</p> <p><b>Italian Paper 1</b> 2 Hr</p>	<p><b>Criminology</b> 13A (25)/Cn - CLO 1 Hr 30</p> <p><b>Maths</b> 13A (15)/Ma FVE 1 Hr 30</p>	<p><b>Core Maths</b> 13E/Mc (3) and 12A/Mc (5) - NMC 1HR 30</p> <p><b>Art</b> in A01(6) 13B/Ar – EFA</p>	<p><b>BTEC Business</b> 13C/Bc (7) - SLI 1 Hr 30</p> <p><b>GCE Business</b> 13C/Bs (5) - PMC 2 Hr</p> <p><b>Criminology</b> 13C/Cn (8) - SJO 1Hr 30</p> <p><b>Photography</b> 13C/Pt B17 - TWI 2 HR</p>	<p><b>GCE Business</b> (5) 13C/Bs PMC 2 Hr</p> <p><b>Chemistry</b> 13C/Ch (8) GPO 1 Hr 30</p>
Period 3, 4 & 5	<p><b>English</b> 13C/Ee (7) – ECL 2 Hours</p> <p><b>Computer Sci</b> 13C/Cp - AGE 2 Hr 30</p>	<p><b>Physics</b> 13B/Ph (8) – JSL 2 Hr 15</p> <p><b>Economics</b> 13B/Ec (5) - FVE 2 Hr</p>	<p><b>Art</b> in A01(6) 13B/Ar – EFA All day</p> <p><b>History</b> 13B/Hi (7) – DBU Paper 1 - 2 Hr 30</p>	<p><b>Chemistry</b> 13C/Ch (8) - GPO 2 Hr 15</p> <p><b>Computer Sci</b> 13C/Cp (11) - AGE 2 Hr 30</p> <p><b>RS Philosophy of Religion</b> 13D/Rs (13) - LHI 1 Hr</p> <p><b>BTEC Business</b> in B12 - SLI 2 Hr</p>	<p><b>Geography</b> 13D/Gg (2) - GWH 2Hr 30</p> <p><b>Biology</b> 13D/Bi (11) - SAN 2 Hr 15</p> <p><b>Further Maths</b> 13D/Fm (7) - JWH 2 Hr</p> <p><b>Italian Paper 2</b> 2 Hr 40</p>





Week A	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> March
Period 1 & 2	<p><b>Core Maths</b> 13E/Mc (3) and 12A/Mc (5) - NMC 1 Hr 30</p> <p><b>Biology</b> 13D/Bi (11) - SAN 1 Hr 30</p> <p><b>RS Religion Ethics</b> 13D/Rs (13) - LHI 1 Hr</p>	<p><b>Pure Maths</b> 13A/Ma Stats and Mechanics 2 Hr</p>			
Period 3 & 4	<p><b>English</b> 13C/Ee (7) – ECL 3 Hours</p> <p><b>Physics</b> 13B/Ph (8) – JSL 1 Hr 30</p> <p><b>BTEC Media</b> B16 - HIO 2 Hrs</p>	<p><b>Economics</b> 13B/Ec (5) – FVE 2 Hr</p> <p><b>History</b> 13B/Hi (7) – DBU Paper 2 - 2 Hr 30</p>			

Have a lovely half term and we look forward to welcoming you back for the busy and exciting upcoming term.  
*The Sixth Form Team: Ms Manlay, Head of Sixth Form; Ms Lawry, Head of Year 13, Ms Loj; Head of Year 12*

## JENNETTS Update

*Mr C Maye, Head of Jennetts House*

Hello Jennetts!!!

I hope you are all looking forward to a well earned break following an intense short Half Term! Where has the time gone! That said it's been amazing observing as well as hearing amazing things about you all in what you have been doing in and around school, seeing all the Golden Tickets and house points coming in for you and in general the way you have all gone about school life this half term despite restrictions hanging over us demonstrating resilience, determination to name a few!

So make sure that you rest up, refocus, spend time doing something you enjoy and look forward to going again on the road to Easter!!!!



## TEMPLE Update

*Mr C Collins, Head of Temple House*

G'Day Temple house, what a fantastic half term it has been, we've all come back from Christmas break with our best foot forward! Despite the hesitation towards the refinements upon return you've all done exceedingly well at adjusting and I couldn't be prouder of you. As of this writing you currently have earned the most golden tickets across all the houses, this in turn has also pushed us into the lead for overall house points. I mentioned at Christmas that this was going to happen, now we have to continue to show why we are the best house and continue this momentum throughout the year, until we hoist our trophy in the air once again! Have a wonderful break, stay safe and I will see you all when we return!



## SWINLEY Update

*Mrs D Turner, Head of Swinley House*

Hello Swinley,

Wow, what an incredible start to the year!

With the introduction of the Golden tickets it has been phenomenal seeing you all working really hard to be the best that you can be. It has been great to see everyone cheering each other on during line up, encouraging each other in class and even more impressively helping your peers in lessons when they may need a little lift. Some of you have even been having friendly competitions leading to some of you already being in double digits, well done!

As the spring draws near there will be more in the way of activities to sink your teeth into, please watch this space.....

As a house team we know that you love to get involved, should you have any ideas for events, competitions or fundraisers, please do let us know.

Have a wonderful, restful half term everyone.



## FARLEY Update

*Mrs C Harris, Head of Farley House*

Hello Farley

Wow, how quick has this half-term flown by? We have completed 6 weeks already!

I just want to say well done to everyone who has achieved a golden ticket, if you haven't I am sure you will at some point.

Congratulations to everyone that has achieved House points and Community points around the school.

Keep up the good work, enjoy your rest and see you all on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.




**BRAKENHALE  
SECOND-HAND  
UNIFORM & PE KIT STORE**



Please email enquiries to:  
**SecondHandSale@brakenhale.co.uk**  
£2 per item  • Blazers £5 

Available for students to collect from the  
**LRC Book Room: 8.20am to 8.55am  
and Break Time**

**Things to do at  
Brakenhale**  
at Break and Lunch



**Activities:**  
Ball games  
on the courts  
& MUGA  
pitches,  
climbing wall,  
table-tennis

**Somewhere  
quiet to read  
or do your  
homework!**

**Indoor  
and  
Outdoor  
seating**

And many other clubs and activities are available at various times...

Brakenhale School High Expectations and Challenge

# Identity Monthly Meets

We can now meet at lunch time again :)

Identity is a club that welcomes all. We meet each month. However, you can come to see us at any time - for a catch up, to discuss something that has been bothering you, to bring something to our attention, to ask questions.

If you haven't heard of us before, Identity is a group run by Mrs Lewis and Miss Meacock.

You can find Mrs Lewis in F10.

Anyone is welcome to attend, if you are LGBTQ+ or a friend of the community.



**Spring HT4**

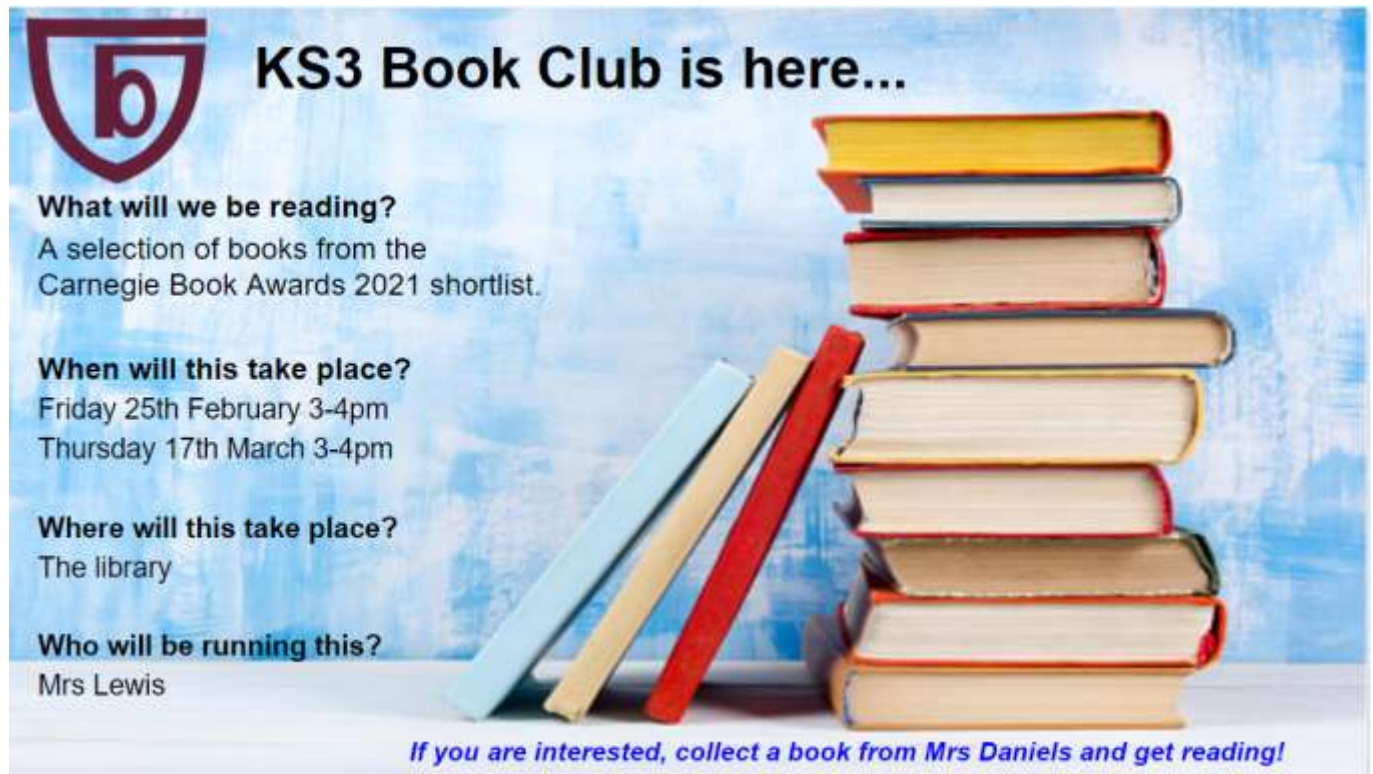
**Next meets:**

- Friday 25th March @lunch in F10
- Friday 22nd April @lunch in F10

**Summer HT5**







**KS3 Book Club is here...**

**What will we be reading?**  
A selection of books from the Carnegie Book Awards 2021 shortlist.

**When will this take place?**  
Friday 25th February 3-4pm  
Thursday 17th March 3-4pm

**Where will this take place?**  
The library

**Who will be running this?**  
Mrs Lewis

*If you are interested, collect a book from Mrs Daniels and get reading!*

**BRAKENHALE**

**DO YOU HAVE ANY UNWANTED or OUT-GROWN UNIFORM or PE KIT ?**



**ALL DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED**

Please bring to main reception or the KS3 Head of Year office

EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE

**DIVERSITY IS POWER**

A SAFE SPACE FOR STUDENTS TO DISCUSS THEIR CULTURAL HERITAGES



EVERY TUESDAY LUNCH  
1:20PM - 1:50PM

ROOM: 504

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL:  
iidiadim15@brakenhale.co.uk  
16mihalkovah@brakenhale.co.uk  
16meneksem@brakenhale.co.uk





**BRAKENHALE**

## Table Tennis Bats & Balls

Available for students to purchase from LRC Book Room 8.20-9am and at Break

**Bats £5**  
**Balls £0.50p**



**Brakenhale School**

**World Book Day 2022**

**You are a reader!**

**Brakenhale Book Club**

Brakenhale will be celebrating **World Book Day** with lots of opportunities for you to be part of so watch this space...



**HEROES, HITS & HOLLYWOOD**

**DANCE SHOWCASE**

BRAKENHALE PERFORMING ARTS AND P16 DANCE

**7PM**  
**23RD MARCH**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE MARCH**

@PABrakenhale





**BRAKENHALE PRODUCTIONS COMPANY**  
PRESENTS

# DRAMA CLUB

This is an exclusive extra-curricular club where students will learn new skills, play exciting games and develop their performance techniques.

**All Year 7 and 8 students are welcome to join**  
*Miss Cullip*  
on Thursday Week B - 3.05 to 4.00pm in the Drama Studio

**BRAKENHALE PRODUCTIONS COMPANY**  
PRESENTS

# KEYBOARD CLUB

This is a specialist extra-curricular music club where students will develop their understanding of keyboard techniques and learn new performance pieces.

**All students are welcome to join**  
*Mr Fitcher*  
on Wednesdays - 3.05 to 4.00pm in LSI

**BRAKENHALE PRODUCTIONS COMPANY**  
PRESENTS

# CHOIR CLUB

This is a specialist extra-curricular music club where students will develop their singing techniques and learn new performance pieces.

**All students are welcome to join**  
*Mrs Hope*  
on Tuesday Week B - 3.05 to 3.45pm in MOI

**BRAKENHALE PRODUCTIONS COMPANY**  
PRESENTS

# NINE DRAMA CLUB

This is an exclusive extra-curricular club where students will learn new skills, play exciting games and develop their performance techniques.

**Year 9 students are welcome to join**  
*Ms Lawry*  
on Monday Week A - 3.05 to 4.00pm in the Drama Studio

**BRAKENHALE PRODUCTIONS COMPANY**  
PRESENTS

# NINE DANCE CLUB

This is an exclusive extra-curricular club where students will develop their performance technique and learn new group routines and choreography.

**Year 9 students are welcome to join**  
*Miss Millard*  
on Tuesday Week B - 3.05 to 4.00pm in the Movement Studio

**BRAKENHALE PRODUCTIONS COMPANY**  
PRESENTS

# NINE MUSIC CLUB

This is an exclusive extra-curricular club where students will learn new performance skills, techniques and new group performance pieces.

**Year 9 students are welcome to join**  
*Mr Fitcher*  
on Monday Week B - 3.05 to 4.00pm in MOI



**BRAKENHALE SCHOOL** 

## Pre-paid Tools for Learning

Available for students to collect from Main Reception

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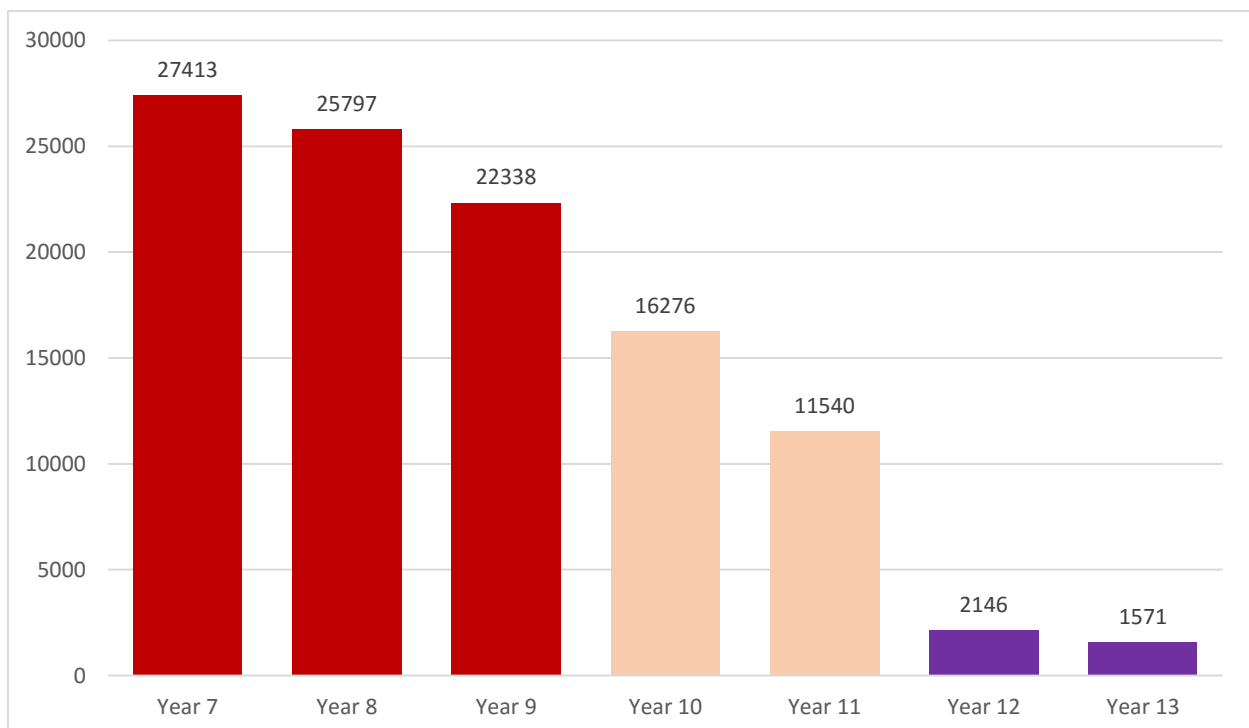
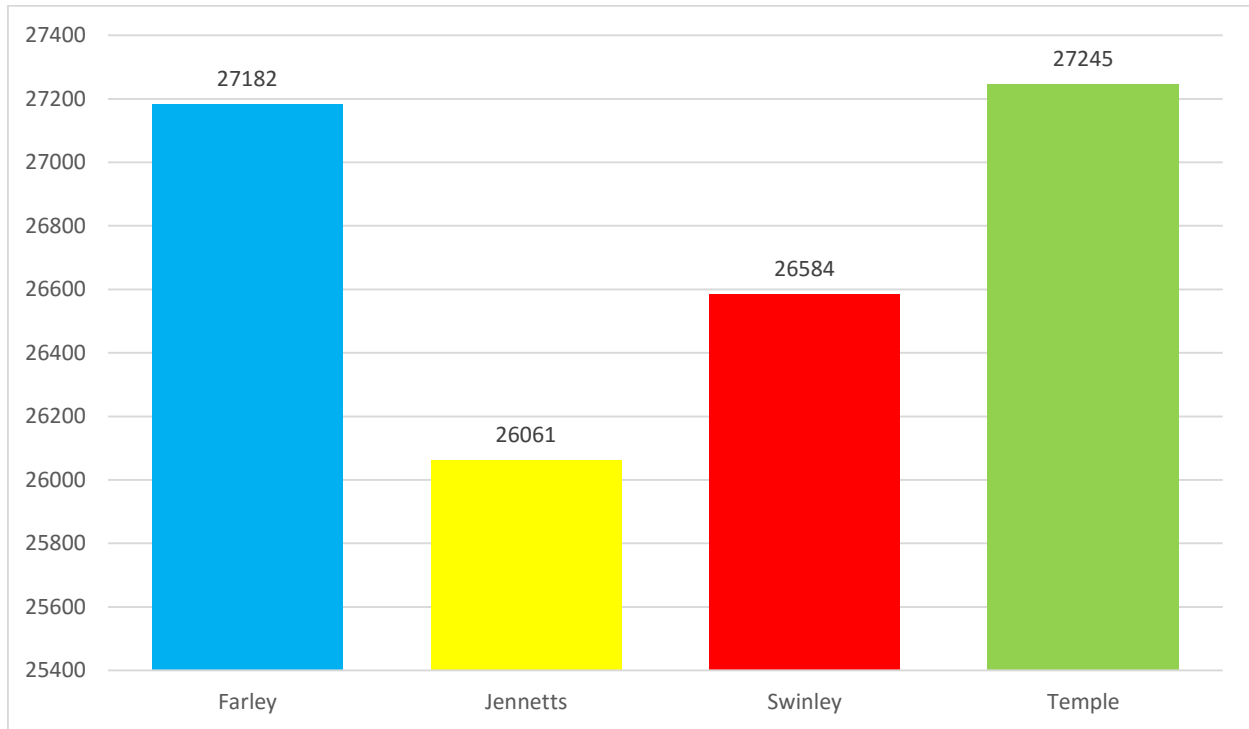
## Individual Tools for Learning

Available to purchase for cash from the LRC Book Room 8.20 - 9am and at Break time



## House Points

### Pastoral Team





## Be Prepared for School

### School Office

Please ensure that students are ready for school each morning with all the tools for learning and other equipment and kit that they need for the day.

**Parents/Carers should please avoid coming into school during the day to bring in forgotten items such as PE kit or cooking ingredients as we are unable to facilitate getting items to students as it disrupts the classroom and learning environment. Any item brought into school for your child will be taken to Student Triage for them to collect.**

Getting into the habit of preparing uniform and school bag the night before is a really good idea to keep students organised. Please encourage your child to take responsibility for themselves, it is a valuable life lesson and good practice for the future.

## Second Hand Uniform and other reminders

### School Office

#### Second Hand Uniform Store

Items are sold daily from the LRC Book Room between 8.20 and 8.55am and during Break time and parents or students can email requests to [SecondHandSale@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:SecondHandSale@brakenhale.co.uk). Students can also visit Mrs McCrorie directly in the Book Room to look for and collect items that have been requested via email. Payment is by cash and all money will go back into the school.

All items have been washed and prices are £2.00 per item, blazers £5.00 each. We will only be selling available stock, so if we do not have an item in stock it will be added to a request list and parents will be emailed if/when it becomes available.

#### Tools for Learning

Student Tools for Learning are sold by Mrs McCrorie from the LRC Book Room daily from 8.20am to 8.55am and break time.

Tools for learning are also available to purchase online via ParentPay and students can then collect them from main reception.

#### Tools for Learning

Large see-through Pencil Case	£0.80
Three Black or Blue Pens (15p each)	£0.45
HB Pencil	£0.10
Rubber	£0.10
Pencil Sharpener	£0.15
30cm Ruler	£0.15
Protractor	£0.20
Highlighter Pen	£0.15
Colouring Pencils	£0.80
Glue Stick	£0.35
<b>Full pencil case</b>	<b>£3.25</b>
Scientific Calculator	£8.35

**BRAKENHALE**  
**SECOND-HAND**  
**UNIFORM & PE KIT STORE**



Please email enquiries to:  
[SecondHandSale@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:SecondHandSale@brakenhale.co.uk)  
**£2 per item** • **Blazers £5**  
Available for students to collect from the  
**LRC Book Room: 8.20am to 8.55am**  
and **Break Time**



## Lost Property

### School Office

Please can we kindly remind all parents and students to ensure that all items brought into school are named - **all uniform, PE kit, water bottles, pencil cases and other tools for learning.**

If named lost property is found in school both students and parents will be emailed and the item(s) can be collected from main reception before school, during break or lunch time or after school up until 4pm.

Un-named lost property will be disposed of at the end of each term.

You can email: [lostproperty@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:lostproperty@brakenhale.co.uk) to see if anything has been found.

*Have you lost something? Don't forget...*



Email us on the address below and we will endeavour to locate the item and return it to you as soon as possible. We have a member of staff who has a specific role in overseeing lost property and she will do her best to help.

Email : [lostproperty@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:lostproperty@brakenhale.co.uk)

**Thank you for making sure all uniform and equipment is named so we can return it promptly.**

Students are always welcome to look through lost property, which is based in the KS3 Head of Year office with Mrs McCrorie, at the start of the day from 8.30am then at any break time or at the end of day.

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





**Brakenhale School**  
*High Expectations and Challenge*  
Hastings/Brakenhale

Tools for Learning

**TOOLS and EQUIPMENT for LEARNING**

- Filled Pencil Case
- Scientific Calculator
- Brakenhale Exercise / Key Stage 3 Art Book
- Subject Specific Items for Key Stage 4





**TOOLS FOR LEARNING PENCIL CASE**

- Large Transparent Pencil Case
- 30cm Ruler
- 3 Black or Blue Pens
- HB Pencil
- Rubber
- Pencil Sharpener
- Glue Stick
- Highlighter
- Protractor
- Coloured Pencils (or Pens)



**Reminders**



**Cycle Safety**

At Brakenhale we welcome our students walking or cycling to school. It is good for the environment and also for their health. In addition, Bracknell has numerous safe cycle paths that students can use to avoid busy roads as much as possible. We have a secure area to keep bikes/non-electric scooters but also ask students bring a lock to offer further security.

The 'Brakenhale Safe Cycle Scheme' encourages all students wear a bike safety helmet, use the bike store and ride their bike in a safe manner. Furthermore, all bikes ridden into school must be deemed road worthy and safe with working brakes. This also applies to scooters. Please note however that electric scooters are not permitted.

Could we ask parents to please remind students that the helmet must be worn securely and has to be put on before they leave the bike area at the end of the school day. Please also remind students that they must dismount at the school gates when arriving at school and should not mount their cycle/scooter until they are off the school grounds.

# Poetry By Heart 2022

Choose a poem | Learn it by heart | Perform it out loud

Register your interest with Mrs Lewis



**Classic**  
2-poem National Championship  
Learn 2 poems from the website and perform in your own voice and style.



**Freestyle**  
1-poem celebration  
Learn 1 poem from the website and perform by yourself, in pairs, groups or whole classes in an original way.  
Choral? With images and sound? Dance?



**Showcase**  
Non-competitive  
Perform a poem not on the website.  
Write one yourself?  
One in a different language? A much loved one?



**Staff**  
1-poem challenge  
Any member of staff learns a poem from the website and performs it in any style, solo or in a pair or group.

- ▼ Serious fun
- ▼ Confidence boosting
- ▼ Enhanced speaking skills
- ▼ Memory building
- ▼ Poetry enjoyment

Finalists will be invited to perform at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, London





**Clubs and Activities**



# MATES PARTICIPATE @ BRAKENHALE PE

**What is this?**  
An opportunity to take part in **ANY** after school sport or activity, with your mates! Just sign in with PE staff and stay and play - simple!

**When is it on?**  
Tuesday...  
Wednesday...  
Thursday...  
Friday...  
**After school**

**Who is it for?**  
All year groups...7 - 13!

**How do I sign up?**  
That's the great thing...you don't have to! Just turn up after school, with your mates...and get involved! Just **tell your parents and bring your kit!**

**What is on offer?**  
The choice is **yours**...PE staff will register you and be on the following areas:  
Astro turf 🏏🏏🏏  
Trampoline centre 🤸  
MUGA 🏀  
Fitness Suite ❤️  
Sports Hall 🏏🏏  
Courts🏏  
Field🏏🏏🏏  
Cricket nets 🏏

**NEW WAY TO REGISTER FOR CLUBS! #SCANME**

There will be a QR code for you to scan, fill out a google form and register! Please do this for every club you attend!

**Follow us:**  
Instagram & twitter  
@brakenhalepe



## Non-Sporting Clubs @ Brakenhale

**Homework Club**  
Every Day  
3.05-4pm • LHC  
Mrs Daniels

**CCF**  
Tuesdays  
Invite only  
3.20-5.20pm  
LHC

**Sparx Maths**  
Mondays & Thursdays - All Years  
3.10-3.45pm • B11 • Mrs Turner  
Tuesdays - Years 7 to 10  
Lunch • B11 • Mrs Turner

**KS3 Science Club**  
Wednesdays - Week A  
3.15-4.15pm • S10  
Mrs Malik

**YOUNG INTERPRETING CLUB**  
Year 7 • Thursday Week B • 3.05-4.05pm • F10  
Year 8 • Friday Week B • 3.05-4.05pm • F10

**KS3 Art Club**  
Wednesdays  
3.05-4pm • A04  
Mrs Fahmi

**Identity**  
Every 4th Friday  
3.05-4.35pm • F10  
Miss Ibrahim  
Mrs Lewis

**MFL KS3 Film Club**  
Wednesdays  
3.20-4.35pm • F02  
Mrs Sultana

**Year 7/8 Drama Club**  
Thursday - Week B  
3.05-4pm • L01  
Miss Cullip

**Year 9 Dance Club**  
Tuesday - Week B  
3.05-4pm • MS  
Mrs Millard

**Choir Club**  
Tuesday - Week B  
3.05-4pm • M01  
Mrs Hope

**Year 9 Drama Club**  
Mondays - Week A  
3.05-4pm • L01  
Miss Lawry

**Year 9 Music Club**  
Mondays - Week B  
3.05-4pm • M01  
Mr Fletcher

**Keyboard Club**  
Wednesdays  
3.05-4pm • LS1  
Mr Fletcher

**Book Clubs**  
KS3 (7, 8 & 9)  
Thursdays  
3.05-4pm  
LRC  
Mrs Lewis  
KS4 (10)  
Thursdays  
3.05-4pm  
F07  
Mrs Keljarrett

High Expectations and Challenge

#teambrokenhale





## School Dining Hall

Taz Asran, Chef Manager - [kitchen@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:kitchen@brakenhale.co.uk)

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
- 11.00 – 11.20** Break-time
- 13.25 – 13.55** Lunch-time
- 3.05** Any unsold food may be purchased at half price by cash or account

Sample menus are available on our website in the [Parent Zone](#)

There is a 3 week menu rotation. Please note, due to delivery issues that are being faced nationally, we may encounter delays to some products. If so, there may be slight alterations to menus

### Free School Meals

Previously we required parents/carers to apply through Bracknell Forest Council but we have now moved to an online platform to make this process easier and simpler and we would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to register.

We would be most grateful if you could complete your details on this form, even if you have applied unsuccessfully in the past, or if you believe you are not entitled to additional funding. The system re-checks details every term and will automatically update our records if your status changes.

If you would like any help with applying you are very welcome to come into school and we would be happy to assist you with an application.

### [Check Eligibility for Free School Meals](#)

It is worth applying for Free School Meals entitlement even if your child does not require a school lunch because entitlement to this benefit comes with an automatic reduction in the cost of school trips (in the UK) and may also entitle you to receive financial assistance with other school related expenses.

		Price	
		Regular	Large
<b>MEALS</b>			
<b>Main Meal</b>		£2.20	
<b>Meal Deal</b> (main meal + £0.60 drink or pudding)		£2.60	
Soup of the Day		£1.10	
Soup with Bread Roll		£1.30	
Jacket Potato + 1 Filling		£1.50	
Jacket Potato + 2 Fillings		£2.00	
Salad Pot		£1.25	£2.00
Pasta King		£1.30	£2.00
Yoghurt Bar		£1.25	£2.00
Fruit Salad / Cold Dessert / Jelly Pot		£1.00	
Pudding		£0.60	
<b>SNACKS</b>			
Pizza		£1.25	
Paninis		£1.80	
Beef / Chicken / Veggie Burger		£1.60	
Hot Wraps		£1.60	
Chicken Nuggets / Popcorn		£1.60	
Hot Dogs		£1.60	
Lamb Kebabs		£1.60	
Bagels		£1.60	
Chicken Wings Pot		£1.60	
Potato Wedges		£0.80	
Waffles		£0.60	
Cookies		£0.50	
<b>DRINKS</b>			
Cold Drinks Range		From	£0.50 to £0.80
Hot Drinks			£1.00
Frutina Slushie			£0.80 £1.00
Ice Cream / Lollies			£0.50

November 2021



## Brakenhale School Lottery

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](https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play)

You have to be in it to win it.



## Action for Happiness

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

### Friendly February

We need each other more than ever right now! This month let's focus on reaching out to connect with others and doing our best to be a good friend. Our acts of kindness and connection ripple out and impact so many more people than we realise - and they also boost our own happy hormones too! In stressful times people around us may be feeling the strain, so let's try to keep calm, take time to listen and show compassion.

**Friendly February 2022**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1. Send a message to let someone know you're thinking of them.	2. Ask a friend how they have been feeling recently.	3. Do an act of kindness to make life easier for someone.	4. Organise a virtual 'tea break' with a colleague or friend.	5. Make time to have a friendly chat with a neighbour.	6. Get back in touch with an old friend you've not seen for a while.	
7. Show an active interest by asking questions when talking to others.	8. Share what you're feeling with someone you really trust.	9. Think someone and tell them how they made a difference for you.	10. Look for good in others, particularly when you feel frustrated with them.	11. Send an encouraging note to someone who needs a boost.	12. Focus on being kind rather than being right.	13. Smile at the people you see and brighten their day.
14. Tell a loved one or friend why they are special to you.	15. Support a local business with a positive online review or friendly message.	16. Check in on someone who may be struggling and offer to help.	17. Appreciate the good qualities of someone in your life.	18. Respond kindly to everyone you talk to today, including yourself!	19. Share something you find inspiring, helpful or amusing.	20. Make a plan to connect with others and do something fun.
21. Really listen to what people say, without judging them.	22. Give sincere compliments to people you talk to today.	23. Be gentle with someone who you feel inclined to criticise.	24. Tell a loved one about the strengths that you see in them.	25. Thank three people you feel grateful to and tell them why.	26. Make uninterrupted time for your loved ones.	27. Call a friend to catch up and really listen to them.
28. Give positive comments to as many people as possible today.						

**ACTION FOR HAPPINESS** Happier · Kinder · Together







## Term Dates

Please find below our updated Term Dates for the remainder of this academic year 2021/22. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee falls during the Summer half-term and all schools have therefore been allocated an additional day's holiday in celebration of it. This additional holiday day will be on **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2022** added on to the Spring half-term.

### Term Dates 2021-22

#### SPRING TERM 2022

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022

**Spring Half Term - Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February to Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022** (including additional day's holiday in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee (during summer half term))

**Spring Holiday: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> to Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

(Good Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April, Easter Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April)

#### SUMMER TERM 2022

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**Summer Half Term - Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022** (including extended bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee)

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022 **Inset Days**

**Summer Holiday: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

(May Bank Holiday Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022)

**INSET Days** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022

Please check the school website regularly for current information.



**Term Dates 2022-23****AUTUMN TERM 2022**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September **Inset Days**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September – Friday 1<sup>6th</sup> December 2022

**Autumn Half Term - Monday 24<sup>th</sup> to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

**Christmas Holiday: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December to Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023**

**SPRING TERM 2023**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January **Inset Day**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

**Spring Half Term - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**Spring Holiday: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

*(Good Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April, Easter Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April)*

**SUMMER TERM 2023**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April **Inset Day**

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**Summer Half Term - Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023**

*(May Bank Holidays Monday 1<sup>st</sup> and Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May)*

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023 **Inset Days**

**Summer Holiday: Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

**INSET Days** Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022  
 Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023  
 Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023  
 Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

*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>



Please visit our website for more details:

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



**Brakenhale School, Rectory Lane, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 7BA**

☎ 01344 423041 ~ ✉ [mainreception@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:mainreception@brakenhale.co.uk) ~ 🌐 [www.brakenhale.co.uk](http://www.brakenhale.co.uk)

*High Expectations and Challenge*