



Friday 31st March 2023 | Half Term 4

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

I hope this finds you well.

We have now come to the end of the Spring half term, albeit feeling like winter on many days!

As always, there has been an array of great experiences in our school throughout this time. Outside of the learning in lessons, every lesson of every day, the opportunities given to students beyond the classroom have been plentiful. This Newsletter details much of this. From external speakers who have inspired our students to a Drop Down Day focussed on enterprise and careers; from trips to the theatre to one to the University of Cambridge, sport fixtures with some great results to CCF going from strength to strength. I must also mention the magnificent production that was Matilda back in February! The list goes on. Please look through the next 40+ pages to get a real insight into our school.

As I have previously shared, we increasingly add content to our Facebook page. Please do look at it if you have an account. Excitingly, after the Easter break, we will be launching a new website. This has been in the pipeline for a few months now. Whilst most of the content remains the same, elements have been updated but it is more aesthetically pleasing and easier to navigate. We will send further communication once it's about to go live.

You will have received various communications yesterday about uniform and tools for learning (TfL). Please ensure to read and digest this. Please also support us in supporting your child(ren), so that they are refreshed and ready for the new term after Easter. All students' uniform will be checked every day. We keep a stock of spare blazers and shoes, so students will be given these to wear temporarily in the event of incorrect uniform.

I also want to remind all of us about the use of social media. In the previous Newsletter, we shared some helpful factsheets for parents / carers. These detailed what some of the social media applications are and how we can monitor them. We have a no-phones policy in school. They should not be seen. However, we know some students have access to these outside of school and ill-usage leads to issues that could be prevented.

As with every term, we've continued to give Golden Tickets and it's great to see students showcasing these. We have had special edition tickets this term too. I have also had the opportunity to have pizza with a select group of students on two occasions this half term. The students were selected by their Heads of Year and I shared with them how proud I was of their achievements. Well done to all students who have attained house points, Golden Tickets, a reward in the assemblies this week and/or had a pizza lunch with me!

Today, we say goodbye to three members of staff. Ms Lee has been with us since January teaching Geography. She was covering for Ms White who will be back after the Easter break. Thank you to Ms Lee for her dedication to the teaching of Geography. Also, Mr Mclean, our First Aid Practitioner, who has been covering for one year is leaving us too. We wish him well on his new venture and thank him for all that he has done. Finally, as I relayed in my communication home earlier in the week, Mr Coley leaves us to become the Deputy Headteacher of a school in Newbury. The school is part of our Trust (GLT) so we will continue to be working with and seeing Mr Coley! We thank him for all his dedication to our school and wish him well. Mr Coley has written a piece which you can read on page 2.

Can I wish you all a restful and happy Easter. We talk to our students about aiming high, being kind and taking responsibility on a daily basis. These values permeate everything we do. These values, too, transcend the school - they are important in our everyday lives. Students' future careers and individual successes drive what we do, every day, underpinned by those values.

I look forward to seeing all of our students on Tuesday 18th April.

Kind regards,

Mr Taylor, Headteacher



With the lighter mornings and some sunshine today (Monday 27th March) it truly does feel like Spring is on its way. Even in the snow at the beginning of March, the seasonal changes all signal progression towards the examination season and eventually the summer holiday. But before this not too distant future, we must reflect and evaluate the last term.

The spring term always focuses on embedding best practices, the new strategies implemented in September are like second nature in January. It is a time when we can all feel supported by the systems in place, including the students who receive their golden tickets every lesson and a clear behaviour policy which allows them the opportunity to get it right every single lesson, ensuring all students in the school can learn undisturbed.

Our second Drop Down Day focused on enriching the varied curriculum we already offer. Year 9 experienced an Enterprise Day, whilst Year 10 focused on their future careers and Year 12 developed even more awareness of Relationships, Sex and Health Education. Every Drop Down Day is an opportunity for students to develop transferable skills: the Year 9s worked expertly in teams and delivered winning pitches for their new bag ideas and Year 10 had their first controlled interview experience with 24 external professionals from various employment sectors. The overwhelming majority of the student feedback is positive for the day, with a few areas that we will make even better for next time. Our third and final Drop Down Day is in July and it will focus on all things 'Diversity'.

Various other external speakers and visitors have been to visit our students in the Spring term - we have had exam stress and life skills workshops for Year 11, a talk from Hezron Brown (an incredibly inspiring man who was presented the Pride of Britain award by King Charles III), an Oxbridge talk by their alumni and the whole of Year 12 went to visit Cambridge University. Every visit or speaker is carefully chosen to provide our students with insights into things they might not experience otherwise.

Additionally, curriculum departments across the school have led subject specific days. World Book Day was epic at all levels, Science Week had some interesting experiments, Maths Pi(e) Day produced some special golden tickets and pies from the canteen, Safer Internet Day led by IT, National Storytelling Week had us inspired by a story which was drip-fed each lesson, Holocaust Memorial Day with Year 9 having a special assembly, and World Religion Day at the beginning of 2023. All department days are again opportunities for learning beyond the curriculum, inspiring students to be inquisitive.



I hope you all get a well-deserved break over the four-day weekend for Easter, that you celebrate its meaning if you believe and most importantly that you spend time as a family.

Wishing you all the very best.

Mrs Whitaker Flower, Deputy Headteacher

Nearly seven years on and I find myself writing my final section of this Newsletter. It is time for me to start a new journey, as Mr Taylor has shared, I begin as Deputy Headteacher in a school in Newbury after Easter, something that I am ready for.

Over this time at Brakenhale I have been able to experience many aspects of school and community life - moving from the 'old' building to the 'new', working with primary colleagues and students for Year 6 transition, working with Reading FC and Jamie's Farm, working with colleagues to promote and develop the importance of attendance and positive behaviour for student development and their learning - these represent a few of the areas that I have been fortunate to oversee. I have also had the pleasure of teaching across a number of subjects: PE, Maths, Science, ICT, Geography and recently Health and Social Care. I wish all of my students the very best for their upcoming exams, I know that you will fully achieve what you are deserving of, and continue to be wonderful young people.

What makes Brakenhale such a wonderful and warm place to work and spend many hours across a week is simply - the people who work in it and the students who arrive on a daily basis - as a community Brakenhale is

great. Outside of the school, I have to mention families, external services and positive relationships as these are so important - we all continue to work collectively to ensure every student, every day does their very best. I truly believe and have regularly shared the importance of the school's values: Aim High, Be Kind and Take Responsibility - all three will allow every student to do what they want to as they move forwards and upwards. The positive interactions with and from parents and families reinforces this supportive community that is Brakenhale.

Support is important. I must state that parental support is invaluable - those that I have worked closely with across my time have bought into our vision and ethos - we must maintain our high expectations daily, supporting our young people to understand the importance of routines, expectations and consequences. Life is waiting for them, we must work together to make them ready for it. Sometimes, there are simply no excuses and acceptance is necessary.

Finally, thank you - sometimes these two words seem too simple but they say everything. I have thoroughly enjoyed working at and being a part of this wonderful school, working closely with everyone within it. Every day is a new day, a fresh start - go again and do your very best each time.

Wishing every single one of you the very best.

Mr Coley, Deputy Headteacher



With the clocks going forward, the weather improving and the evenings remaining lighter for longer it is clear that Summer is fast approaching. At the same time, four terms of this academic year have been completed and the remaining two are on the horizon, which also means that GCSE and A Level exams are around the corner.

Students in Year 11 and 13 have completed their final Pre-Public Exams (PPEs). The outcomes of the PPEs show an improvement in exam grades for students between those completed in November and most recently in February. When we return from the Easter holiday, there are 18 school days before the exam series, which starts on Monday 15th May. To aid student revision over the Easter holiday, a variety of revision sessions have been offered to students, they have also been issued with an exam manifest (which outlines what they need to revise) and Year 11 students have received a second presentation on exam revision techniques.

The past term has been full of activities; including the introduction of curriculum reviews (Deep Dives) which have been completed in the Social Sciences, Geography and Languages departments. These have been insightful and students have spoken highly of their lessons. As a whole school we have focused on securing routines and habits with our teaching pedagogy, to ensure outcomes, with all year groups, are maximised.

Wishing you a wonderful Easter holiday.

Mr Smith, Deputy Headteacher



Rewarding Students

Mr P McKane, Assistant Headteacher

Our 'Golden Ticket' is given out in every lesson every day to recognise and reward students. Furthermore we regularly hold 'Reward events with the Headteacher'. This occurs every three weeks, ie. twice per half term.



Pizza Lunch with the Headteacher!

This term we have 'Pizza with the Headteacher' (rather than Hot Chocolate)!

Well done to all the students - from Year 7 right the way through to Year 13 - who were chosen for their outstanding reports this term and had lunch with Mr Taylor on Thursday 9th March.

Similarly, students were selected by their Heads of Year for the second pizza lunch of the half term on Thursday 30th March to celebrate 'Being Kind' and recognising those students who stand out as always being kind to others.

They all fulfil our values of Aim High, Be Kind and Take Responsibility and Mr Taylor is really proud.



SOS
for all outgrown uniform / PE kit donations as our stocks are very low for fulfilling second hand uniform requests.
Thank you.



Combined Cadet Force

Captain Bury, Contingent Commander, Brakenhale School CCF

Brakenhale CCF has yet again had a full action packed few months of training and courses being run for both our cadets and instructors.

February 2023

Over the weekend of the 18th and 19th February we ran a Student First Aid training weekend. The weekend allowed cadets to take part in a formal First Aid training course and on the successful completion of the course, cadets were awarded their 'Student First Aid Award'.



The training covered all of the following first aid subjects – actions on an emergency, primary and secondary assessments, CPR and AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators), wounds and bleeding, burns and scalds, choking, foreign objects, head and spinal injuries, anaphylaxis and eye injuries.

Below are the cadets in action during this training weekend.



We are really proud of the cadets who gave up the weekend to take part in the first aid training and following the successful completion of the test at the end, we now have 47 cadets that are fully qualified as youth first aiders.

Tuesday 21st February

Brakenhale CCF cadets were invited to attend the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service Station in Bracknell. This was a chance for the cadets to get a look behind the scenes of the workings of a fire station.

The cadets were shown around lots of different fire-fighting equipment used by the fire service and also had the chance to try on some of the equipment the firefighters wear.



Below are some pictures from this visit: **CADETS ON PARADE AT THE FIRE STATION**



March 2023

On Friday 17th March cadets deployed on the first full Fieldcraft adventure to Tangier Wood on the Surrey/Kent boarder.

WOW, what 3 days we had at Tangier Wood.

Cadets started with basic fieldcraft exercise drills such as basha building, cooking in the field and personal care in the field. This quickly progressed to tactical skills such as fieldcraft signals and types of patrols, all with practical sessions.

Cadets yet again quickly moved on with the tactical skills and were learning about CTR (Close Target Recognition), A to H (the way the army talks about a person when describing them) and Orders.



Before cadets could even get their heads down on day 2 they were out playing some games. The games included rock, paper, scissors, giant jenga, tug of war, pick a route and axe throwing, BUT, like everything cadets do, it had its own twists.

Where do I start with day 3??? It can only be one place with the 0430hrs alarm the cadets received – YES! 0430!

Cadets were up and ready to move out following the orders given in the briefing the night before.

The cadets spent 30 minutes out on a recce with patrols getting intel on the newly found enemy position. They then met the Contingent Commander and back briefed him in what they had found; ALL this before breakfast.

Following breakfast cadets were given the final strike orders and then spent time practicing a hostage rescue and their technique on carrying out a strike.

Each team then split in half and got ready for H Hour (move out to carry out the strike).

WELL let's just say all hostages were saved and a few cadets REALLY enjoyed taking the enemy hostage (maybe a little too much).

The final hour was spent doing some axe throwing and just enjoying the amazing grounds of Tangier Wood.





The final minutes came and we were so proud to be able to PROMOTE Cadet Cpl Duncombe to Cadet Sgt. Cadet Sgt Duncombe showed the spirit of a good leader and the skills that warranted her promotion.

Cadet of the month (yes early but so fully deserved) was awarded to Cadet Mason again following another outstanding 3 days

CONGRATULATIONS BOTH



THANK YOU to Tangier Wood. Staff/owners, Jodie and Jorden, for the best Cadet 3 day experience we have ever had and we can't wait to spend a week with in July for our Summer Camp.

One Last Thank You

I would like to say a huge THANK YOU to the amazing team I have of adult instructors. Without the work and commitment, they give to the CCF we would not be able to offer our cadets all of the life changing opportunities we do. So, THANK YOU and here are the adults showing the love!



Hope for Hasti

Brakenhale School Cadets undertook a gruelling 24-hour, 800-mile challenge and raised £3,715 for Hope for Hasti; inspired by the Barefoot Soldier, Major Chris Brannigan's, 700-mile barefoot walk from Land's End to Edinburgh, in full military kit, to raise money to fund pioneering research into treatments for rare disease Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS), with which his young daughter, Hasti (11), was diagnosed with in 2018 and for which there are currently no treatment options.



Six months ago, I put forward the idea of this challenge to my cadets to support Hope for Hasti and without hesitation they all agreed.

50 brave Cadet volunteers completed the gruelling challenge of walking a total of 800 miles in the cold and rain over the weekend of the 25th and 26th of March. The Cadets were inspired by the 700-mile barefoot march from Land's End to Edinburgh by Major Chris Brannigan, also known as the Barefoot Soldier, who completed the unthinkable challenge in 35 days over the summer of 2020, as covered by all the national press, and has resulted in Chris becoming a Pride of Britain award winner.

The Cadets commenced the challenge at 10AM on Saturday 25th March and didn't complete the final lap until 10AM on Sunday 26th March. To meet the target 800 miles, the cadets had to complete a total of 3,200 laps of the Brakenhale School athletics track, and they tracked their progress by collecting one of 3,200 beads each time they completed a lap. On average, each Cadet had to complete 64 laps of the track; an incredible 16 miles per Cadet.

Despite the cold and the rain faced by the Cadets and the Instructors, their enthusiasm never waned. Cadets walked, skipped, ran, and in one case, walked with crutches around the track throughout the day. As this was a 24-hour challenge, the Cadets pitched their tents on the school playing field over-night and Mums and Dads visited in the evening to check their progress and to deliver their dinner. Kabirs Restaurant, Crowthorne very kindly donated a delicious dinner to the Instructors who planned and delivered the event. Brakenhale School CCF were also supported by other local companies such as Splitz Facilities who kindly loaned generators and heaters so that everyone could keep warm despite the inclement weather, SF Embroidery who donated their services for printing of the T-shirts worn by the Cadets, and Willerby Roofing & Exteriors Ltd who provided shelters.

We, as a CCF unit, have seen the highs and lows that Major Chris Brannigan and his family have been through to try and bring awareness for this extremely rare condition into the mainstream media, so to be able to support Hasti and raise the awareness of CdLS in our area was something both Cadets and instructors were enthusiastic to do. When you plan an event like this you hope that you can hit your sponsorship target but we are blown away by the support we have received and to be able to raise over £3,700 is outstanding.

Year 9 Choices

Mr George, Assistant Headteacher

Thank you to all the students and parents that have actively engaged with the Year 9 Choices process. It is always a privilege to be part of this exciting journey as our students are about to embark on their GCSE and Vocational courses.

As I explained during the presentation evening, it is a very complex job to review all of the choices and then prepare the timetable for September 2023. We will be working on this through the next half-term and we will have conversations when needed with any students where we are unable to allocate their choices. If you have any questions then please do contact us at data@brakenhale.co.uk. We expect to be able to confirm student choices at the end of June.



Drop Down Day – Friday 17th March

Mrs H Whitaker, Deputy Headteacher | Mrs Millard, Head of Performing Arts | Miss Wilhelmy, Head of Creative Arts

On Friday 17th March, we had our second Drop Down Day (DDD) at Brakenhale. Drop Down Days are 'off-timetable' days, which replace students' normal lessons with activities used to strengthen students' practical application of skills and provide a deeper learning experience.



In response to feedback from our November DDD, we organised activities for 3 year groups: Years 9, 10 and 12, creating events that were relevant to their specific curriculum and stage of life.

Year 9 students took part in an Enterprise Day, working in their tutor groups to create a design for a new style of school rucksack. Students worked in small groups, creating a design that was within a fixed budget, was fully costed, developing a sales and marketing plan and ultimately, pitching their design to the rest of their tutor group. Each



tutor group put forward a winning team, who pitched their idea to Mr Taylor and Mrs Budden, whilst the presentation was live streamed into all Year 9 classrooms. The winning tutor group was 9A with an excellent brand name, design and pitch, delivered by Charlie B and Ashton B, whilst the rest of Slackpack's team - Frankie G, Tia W and Amelia P - supported from the side-lines.

Year 10 students spent their day working on their CVs and interview preparation, thinking about life after Brakenhale. They heard from a Brakenhale alumni, Clare Russell, who gave an inspirational talk about her career journey. In the afternoon, we welcomed 24 external interviewers to Brakenhale from a variety of companies and careers, who gave up their time to interview every Year 10 student and to provide them with invaluable advice. Feedback from the interviewers was highly complimentary about the professionalism of our Year 10 students.

Finally, Year 12 students spent the day learning about relationships, sex education and health. They heard from an external speaker talking about toxic masculinity; had a very informative sex education class from Ms Ioannidis; learnt relevant first aid skills from Mr McLean and participated in an Assessment Centre task to test their problem solving and creativity skills.

Feedback on this second of our Drop Down Days was highly positive from all involved and we are very much looking forward to our third event in the Summer term, when we will be celebrating the theme of 'Diversity'.

PE and Extra Curricular Round-Up | Half Term 3

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

British Boxing Champion

The school received a call from Terry Blair, Head coach at GH Boxing Academy in Bracknell, regarding Year 8 student Louie Delaney. He attends the Boxing club and last month became the British Schoolboy Boxing Champion - The best in the country! This is an outstanding achievement for Louie!! He shows the dedication required to reach this standard in every PE lesson as well as any event representing the school - be it football, cross country or athletics - his determination and commitment is second to none!

From Everyone in Brakenhale PE and the rest of the School Congratulations Champ!



Swimming Bronze Medal

Bobby D in Year 9 is a competitive swimmer and trains 4/5 times a week with a club called Rushmoor Royals over in Aldershot. Last weekend Bobby spent the whole weekend competing; on Saturday he swam in 4 races and managed to get 3 personal bests (PBs) and even knocked 10 seconds off one of them.

On Sunday Bobby swam in 2 races; the first being 1500m freestyle (to put that into perspective that is 60 lengths of the leisure centre pool). Bobby achieved it in just under 24 minutes, his coach having set him a goal of 25 minutes, and he was awarded a bronze medal. To say that his parents and I are very proud of him would be an understatement. He then pulled another PB not long after in another race. Well done Bobby!

Cheerleading

Jaya B in Year 9 attended the Allstar Cheerleading Championships at the weekend in Nottingham with her cheerleading team, Kick Twist. We are delighted to inform you that they came 1st in their category! We are so proud and congratulate Jaya and the team on their sporting success! *Kelsey Hudson, Programme Director, Kick Twist Cheerleading*

Girls Football

This term we have seen a number of girls across Years 7, 8 and 9 represent the school in the Under 14 Girls East Berkshire football league. All girls involved have shown excellent commitment and enthusiasm with every game. It has been a mixed bag with the results but I can't fault the girls' hard work and dedication. We have our last fixture on Wednesday 27th March and we are excited to see how high up the league we can finish! Well done to everyone involved!



Year 7 Boys Football

Brakenhale's Year 7 football team are nearly done with their season, having played another two games in the East Berkshire Schools' League, both at home.

Their first game this half term, at home to Ranelagh, was a very competitive encounter on a lovely sunny afternoon. The boys showed their clinical side as they defended well and moved the ball at pace to build up a 3-0 lead by the end of the first half. Ranelagh, missing a few key players, were unfortunate in several goal scoring opportunities and whilst Brakenhale scored a further two goals in the second half, the score line did not truly reflect how competitive and close the game was as the game finished 5-0. Player of the match - Raf C.

Their second game, at home to Charters, was also a tight and very physical encounter on home soil. Brakenhale started well and a lightning attack saw us take the lead with a great composed finish from Raf. Charters responded well, scoring a wonder goal from a free kick 20 yards out, hitting the top corner with a fantastic strike to finish the half on level terms. A long range shot managed to fool our goalkeeper in the air and allowed Charters to take the lead, against the run of play early in the second half. Brakenhale dug deep and a well-timed half volley in the bottom corner from Spencer H inside the box put Brakenhale back on even terms. Both teams fought well, with both teams having a goal disallowed for offside as the game finished 2-2, with Charters having all the momentum in the final stages. Player of the match - Harrison H.

Year 8 Boys Football

So this term the boys have played 2 more cup games and 3 league games! Winning 4 and losing just one!!

Cup run so far... So after an extra preliminary win vs EP we then hosted St Bartholomew's from Slough at home. The boys put in a good shift both physically and mentally, working hard in and out of possession. Some of the football shown in last year's cup run was evident and we ran out 2-0 winners, progressing to the next round.

Next was an away trip to Claires Court School in Taplow. The boys were keen and finished the school day earlier than normal and we took a trip over to the venue. The pitch was not the best for our passing game and we struggled early on against a fit and physical team. Then an unlucky error by their GK (lucky for us) enabled us to relax a bit and grow into the game. They equalised late on in the half against the run of play to go in at half time 1-1. A few adjustments, the boys took advice onboard and again dominated the game but could not find the goal. That said, sadly the GK for Claires Court found the same bump in the ground as the first half and a tame shot hit the spot and into the goal! In a cup game when you dominate possession but can't score you take the goals from wherever and however they come!



This now means that on Thursday 30th March we travel to Ditton Park School (Slough) for a place in the semi-final of the County cup at stake...

Our League Campaign so far... We opened our league campaign with a hard fought 1-0 win away to LVS school with a very even game. It was a Seb P penalty that was the only thing separating the 2 good teams.

Full of confidence we went into a home game vs Forest School and despite scoring 3 goals and playing some good football, an inspired performance from a Reading Academy player (where he sadly scored 7!) meant we lost 7-3.



Our most recent game saw us travel to Piggott School. A few very last-minute changes to the team, 11 dedicated, hard-working boys got on the bus and made the trip. After a fairly even affair we went 1-0 down into the break. The boys were not downbeat, took advice on board and went out and won 2-1 to keep our challenge for honours on two fronts.

Next up is a Home game vs EP, away to Garth followed by a Quarter final cup game away to Ditton Park to come. So watch this space - if things go to plan football will continue after the Easter Break but if not then we will put the nets away for this year.....

Year 9 Boys Football

The Year 9 footballers had a short and sweet season this year. They lacked commitment to training in the first half of the term with only a select few being able to attend, meaning they didn't have the structure and confidence to take to the pitch in the latter half of the term towards Easter for their fixtures.

Both games, against LVS and Forest, ended in losses but the boys developed in ways which they learnt from. Showing resilience and determination to not allow the score line to get the better of them, the boys did put in the hard yards and did not give up, despite some decent football from the opposition.

The game against EP was cancelled due to a staffing issue at EP so this awarded us the win but we are due to play the fixture in the summer term so the boys do not lose out.

The big take away from this is about preparation and failure... if you fail to prepare, you prepare to fail and that is what the boys have suffered this year. Year group sport will be reviewed in Year 10.

Year 9 football squad 2022-23: Alfie B, Owen C, Thomas G, Frazer H, Joshua H, Aiden H, Mikey M, Eamonn P, Joseph R, John R, Peter R, Kieron S, Aston S, Zach W

Year 9 Primary Schools Sports Leaders

Our Year 9 Sports Leaders took part in their first Primary School Leadership event this past term. There were nearly 40 Year 9 students who wished to take part, so they were set an 'Apprentice' style task and were asked to apply for the job. There were some superb letters of application that came in and this made it tough to select the students. 20 Year 9s were eventually chosen and they had a day out at the Leisure Centre helping support the Year 3/4 Primary School Indoor Athletics event.

Our students had to greet, explain, demonstrate, organise, record and run the events along with staff from the Primary Schools and the Bracknell Forest School Sports Partnership.

The Leaders were incredible and worked fantastically well and with great energy to help the day take place. The Leaders, some of whom remembered and saw their primary teachers, took that step up and worked with the younger students to give them a fantastic day of competitive sport.

The Leaders will be back in action in the summer heling with the outdoor athletics event and then will help out again at the Year 5/6 indoor events next year in Year 10.

Well done to all students who took part in the event, you were all fantastic!

Year 9 Sports Leaders 2022-23: Isobel A, Callum B, Jaya B, Florence B, Alesia C, Owen C, Megan C, Chloe D, Bobby D, Ruby-Mae G, Aiden HB, Ava J, Sarah-Louise J, Tabitha M, Olivia M, Cleo M, Mikey M, Lexi S, Sophie S, Zach W

Extra-Curricular Clubs

So the SUMMER TERM is here after the Easter break!!!! Hopefully so will the summer weather!

So what can you look forward to on Sports Night.....

CRICKET! get padded up in the nets, practice your batting, Bowling and fielding....

ATHLETICS! Can you run, jump, throw? Fancy learning How? Come along and have a go at Sprints, Middle distance, Javelin or shot!

ROUNDERS! How is your hand eye coordination? Fancy practicing batting, fielding, bowling with friends then come along!

Don't fancy any of those... well Mates Participate still running, why don't you and a friend have a work out in the Gym or play some Tennis? Come along and let the PE staff know what you fancy doing and we will help you get involved!

Come on down after line up each Wednesday, sign in on the QR code and get involved!



HT5

What is this?
An opportunity to take part in school sport or activity, to get another fix of PE!
Just sign in with PE staff and stay and play - simple!

When is it on?
EVERY Wednesday... Plus FIXTURES!!!!

After school
305-415pm
















TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY - A WHOLE NIGHT OF SPORT!!	THURSDAY
FIXTURES vs other schools	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>This Term....</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPORT 1 - Cricket - ALL years Boys & Girls SPORT 2 - Athletics - ALL years Boys & Girls SPORT 3 - Rounders - ALL years Boys & Girls Mates Participate - ALL years Boys & Girls Fitness Suite... Tennis... 	FIXTURES vs other schools Basketball in the sports hall with Mr Mav!

PE Champions for this Half Term

 #teambrakenhale #brakenhalepe		<h3 style="text-align: center;">PE CHAMPIONS Spring Half Term 1 - WELL DONE!</h3>					
		Week beginning: 20/2/23		Week beginning: 27/2/23		Week beginning: 6/3/23	
Staff	Student	Tutor	Student	Tutor	Student	Tutor	
	Mr Potter	Mikey M	9A	John R	9A	Josh M	11K
	Mr Maye	Louie D	8N	Olivier M	7N	Oskar B	8H
	Mr Boucher	Kacper M	10E	Oliver M	8A	Amy T	9E
	Ms Wilson	Daisy W	7N	Alisha S	10A	Olivia M	7H
	Ms Montgomery	Samantha MJ	11B	Hanna I	8K	Ian Y	8B
		Week beginning: 13/3/23		Week beginning: 20/3/23		Week beginning: 27/3/23	
Staff	Student	Tutor	Student	Tutor	Student	Tutor	
	Mr Potter				Reubin C / Taylor C	11C / 11H	
	Mr Maye	Pacey K	7A	Charlie S	8H	Chase H	8B
	Mr Boucher	Yancy E	8H	Maya A	10R	Connor B	10E
	Ms Wilson	Chloe B	8E	Taffy G	9E	Kacie H	8H
	Ms Montgomery	Mya D	11C	Rohita V	10K	Lauren C	7N
		#teambrakenhale		#brakenhalepe			

PE reminders

The only kit that is allowed for PE is Brakenhale PE kit. Unless there are extenuating circumstances and we have an email from parents to the class teacher with a reason why a student does not have their Brakenhale kit, students must have their full Brakenhale PE kit. Failure to comply with this will lead to a same day sanction.

All incidents of injury or illness that lead to students not being able to do PE must be communicated to the class teacher, via an email from parents. We do not accept hand written notes. Failure to comply with this will lead to a same day sanction.

Any student with long hair must ensure hair is tied back appropriately with a suitable hair tie or band. Whilst we do have some hair bands/ties in PE this is a personal responsibility. Additionally, we do not allow for any type of jewellery, piercing or watches to be worn in PE. Students will be told to remove these.

All students who cannot take part in PE must stay with us in the lesson. We do not allow for students to miss PE for medical reasons and spend time in the LRC or another part of the school.

Mr Potters top tips for winter PE lessons!

As the coming week and months are going to get colder, can I please ask that students are adequately prepared for PE. Items can be purchased from the online school shop for PE (tracksuit bottoms or the PE jumper).

- Wear PE tracksuit bottoms/leggings rather than PE shorts/skorts
- Wear your PE jumper on top of your PE shirt as an extra layer
- Put a plain t shirt (black or white) or vest under your PE shirt for another extra layer
- If you have a skin/thermal style top, these can be worn if black or white only.
- Bring a pair of fingered black gloves to keep your hands warm
- Ensure your socks are correct (PE socks - long knee socks or white sports socks) and don't wear your black school socks for PE as your feet will get cold as they are thin
- Keep active as soon as you are changed and get to your lesson - start warm ups and dynamic stretches to keep moving and keep warm - plus it will impress your teacher.

****Due to health and safety, we do not allow full outdoor coats, PE/Brakenhale hoodies, scarves, snoods or beanies to be worn in PE****

Being in the outdoors all year round is a brilliant thing, but we do understand that the weather can be tough on students, that is why it is key to get students adequately prepared for lessons. We want students to have a positive experience in PE but at the same time build resilience, so please ensure items have been packed for them to take part in PE.

If for whatever reason a lesson cannot go ahead due to inclement weather, there is a pre-planned indoor space for students to be taught in, by their PE teacher. This will be the sports hall, fitness suite, one of the movement studios, the main hall or trampoline centre.

Careers @ Brakenhale

Mrs K Allum, Careers Lead and Mrs Whitaker-Flower, Deputy Headteacher

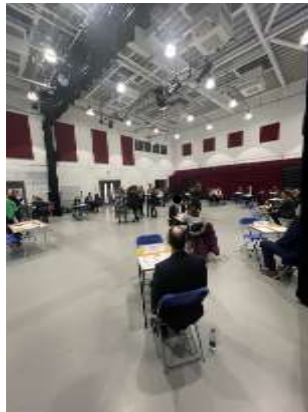
It has been a wonderful term for Careers at Brakenhale and it's such an honour to meet and get to know our young people. They always fascinate and impress me for many different reasons; their subject interests, sheer talent, hobbies, aspirations and a wanting to improve themselves. When I speak with individuals alone, it is always apparent how serious, and sometimes worried, they are about their next move and future career. The school is very keen to put more career mechanisms in place to help students.

Year 11s: At this point in time, I would expect EVERY student to have applied for their post GCSE option; either full time education (Sixth Form/College), Apprenticeship or 'job (20+ hours a week) plus a part-time course.' If this has NOT happened then please let myself and Mr Hilton know urgently. Please be aware that there will always be entry requirements, therefore I often advise students to have a plan A and a plan B. Be realistic and if you think a plan B is needed then make that happen. Please also be aware that students can often change their mind on what they want to study, so there is no harm in making a few different applications. Many of the students are now being offered 'conditional offers'; please accept all the offers for now - then when the GCSE results come in, that is when you enrol on one of the options and decline the others. I always advise students to keep ALL their options open for now. I have grown very fond of this year group and will really miss them when they fly the Year 11 nest! Please be mindful to triple check that your child has received a conditional offer by this point, if not then please contact the relevant provider at your earliest convenience.

Year 10s: We hosted a Careers Day in March where they could create their CV and learn interviewing skills. It was a chance for each student to really brush up on these important life skills. We even had external volunteer interviewers coming - professionals from a range of industries. Some of the Year 10s are very keen to start their Career chats; it is great to see their drive and enthusiasm. In the Autumn term we will really start to work with them on this.

This term we also had Careers week, which involved a dedicated assembly, the LRC hosting a table filled with Careers information and access to a virtual careers fair and online video content of what is like to work in certain industries. Since that event many students from varying year groups have asked me for help and support.

We have had more detailed talks with a Microsoft Solutions Provider in terms of how we can interlink with our IT students, we should have some exciting things coming up regarding that. Watch this space!



Drop Down Day for Year 12

Ms H Ioannidis, Head of Vocational & Alternative Curriculum

Year 12 were involved in a range of seminars and workshops all focused on building positive relationships and life enhancing skills.

The day included:

- A seminar about Misogyny and a discussion surrounding Andrew Tate,
- A workshop discussing safe sex, condom application and relationship expectations with sex and how they differ due to culture and individual preferences,
- A first aid live demonstration with our medical team to ensure all students know how to perform basic first aid,
- An assessment style interview task to enhance their knowledge about the job application process.



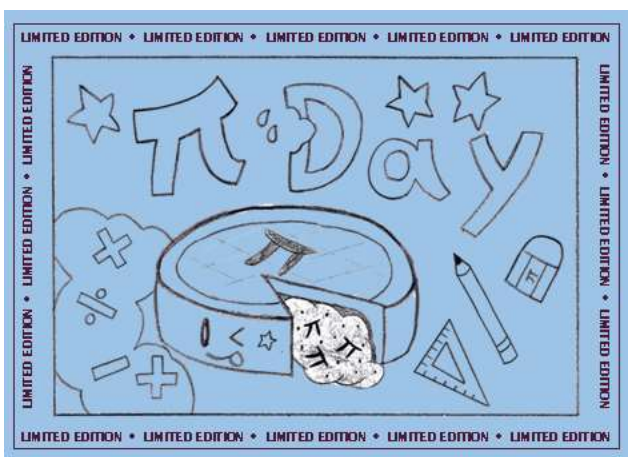
Maths Update

Miss V Moore, Acting Head of Maths

Pi Day – 14th March 2023

On Tuesday 14th March the maths department celebrated International Pi Day. The theme for the year was 'Mathematics for Everyone'. Before the celebrations could get started we launched a competition to have the students design a 'Limited-Edition Golden Ticket' to use throughout the week.

Congratulations again to our two winners Bryony T in Year 9 and Ian Y in Year 8. Both students received a £10 voucher for their fantastic designs. Please see their Limited-Edition Golden Ticket below:



Ian Y – Year 8



Bryony T – Year 9

Our school chef Mr Asran and his team got in on the Pi Day celebration as well. We were served a delicious variety of pies. We couldn't have a 'Pi Day' without 'Pies', could we!

PSHE Update Spring Term

Ms H Ioannidis, PSHE Lead

In PSHE this term, students in Year 7 to 11 have been focusing on the themes of goal setting in terms of their physical and mental health, careers, and financial and economic education during their fortnightly lessons. We at Brakenhale encourage you to ask them what they have explored in PSHE as it projects into life outside of school and gives it some real context.


In Sixth Form, Year 12 students had a visit from Epic Risk Management – a charity with speakers who share their gambling addiction and explain the risks involved with online betting and how easy it can be to get involved in negative situations. Students in Year 13 have been focusing on their aspirations for this new year and how to support their physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing. They have been involved in time management seminars, learning to deep breathe with meditation to support them during times of stress or when overwhelmed. Both years have also completed a virtual financial escape room to place them in real life scenarios connected to debt, borrowing and purchasing big items like cars.


For future PSHE topics and lesson break downs please visit our curriculum overview here for the Summer Term:

<https://brakenhale.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PSHE-at-a-glance.pdf>

Year 7

MY DREAMS AND GOALS

 Dreams are our aspirations and ambitions


 Goals are the steps we need to take to achieve our dreams

COPING STRATEGIES

Removing the 'Culture of Blame'

Some organisations have found that when they changed their approach to dealing with mistakes fewer errors occurred.

When the 'culture of blame' is removed people are more likely to report problems and try to solve them.




Dealing with setbacks!

Life is not always a straight path towards your goal, there will be obstructions along the way but you shouldn't give up.

Here are some examples of people who had to fight to get where they are...


RESPONSIBLE CHOICES

Being responsible means being dependable, keeping promises and honoring our commitments. It is accepting the consequences for what we say and do.  Responsible


Risk is the possibility of taking an action when we cannot always predict what will happen and when there is the potential of losing something of value.

Gambling

Gambling is a risk where money (or something else of value) is swapped in the hope of winning something better.

Participants have no idea if they will win or lose. 

MAKING GOOD HEALTH CHOICES


The UK government has produced an Eat Well Guide to help people make healthier diet choices. 

Whilst this guidance works for some people, it is not suitable for everyone.


Physical Exercise

- It can make you feel happier by releasing serotonin and endorphins
- It can reduce stress
- It can help with weight management
- It is good for your muscles and bones

Sleep





- Sleep helps your body to fight back, sleep allows your body to strengthen itself and fight infection. 

STRESS AND ANXIETY

Stress is the body's reaction to feeling threatened or under pressure. It's very common and can be motivating to help us achieve things but too much stress can affect our mood, body and our relationships. 

Anxiety is a feeling of worry, nervousness, or unease about something with an uncertain outcome.

What are the signs of stress?

 Emotional
  Cognitive
  Behavioural
  Physical

UNDERSTANDING SUBSTANCES

The term "substances" refers to drugs or alcohol, and includes things such as cigarettes, illegal drugs, prescription drugs, inhalants and solvents

Under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, the following are offences for which individuals can be prosecuted:

- Possession of a controlled drug
- Possession with intent to supply another person

Drug Class	Examples	Danger Level
A	Crack cocaine, cocaine, ecstasy (MDMA), heroin, LSD, magic mushrooms, methadone, methamphetamine (crystal meth)	<div style="text-align: center;"> More Dangerous ↑ </div>
B	Amphetamines, barbiturates, cannabis, codeine, methylphenidate	
C	Anabolic steroids, benzodiazepines	

Year 8

MY LONG-TERM GOALS

Long-term goals: Consist of plans you make for your future usually over a year or longer.

Short-term goals: these are the steps we take to reach our long-term goals usually done over weeks or months.

These are four things to keep in mind when trying to achieve your goals...

- BE FLEXIBLE** Goals should be flexible. Adjust them if you need to.
- BE REALISTIC** If you have a goal, think about what it will take to achieve it.
- PLAN AHEAD** Working out what you need to do, when you need to do it, and how you will do it.
- BE SMART** SMART goals are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-based.

Your Digital Footprint is what is left behind whenever you do anything online. Every time you visit a website a piece of information about you is stored.

MANAGING STRESS

Stress is the body's reaction to feeling threatened or under pressure. It's very common and can be motivating to help us achieve things but too much stress can affect our mood, body and our relationships.

Stress is motivating and gets things done; at the other end of the spectrum, stress can be more debilitating; and we all spend time at different parts of the spectrum, depending on the situation.

UNDERSTANDING THE VALUE OF MONEY

Evidence from psychology tells us...

- Money can make it easier to be happy but it's not a guarantee
- What does seem to make us happy is being generous with money

Financial Risks
Credit cards: often seen as an easy way to buy things but you still have to pay it back with interest

Gambling: there are lots of ways to gamble, scratch cards, national lottery, on-line betting, and bingo. But the chances of winning are very slim.

ME AND MY HEALTH

There are 8 dimensions to wellness. Social, Physical, Intellectual, Emotional, Spiritual, Environmental, Financial and Occupational.

Diseases and Vaccinations

Disease	Vaccine	Age
Polio	Polio	12 weeks, 18 months, 5 years
Diphtheria	DTPa	12 weeks, 18 months, 5 years
Tetanus	DTPa	12 weeks, 18 months, 5 years
Whooping cough	DTPa	12 weeks, 18 months, 5 years
Measles	MM2	1 year, 4 years
Mumps	MM2	1 year, 4 years
Rubella	MM2	1 year, 4 years
Hepatitis B	HepB	12 weeks, 18 months, 5 years
Shingles	Shingrix	70 years and over
Pneumonia	Pneumo	65 years and over

Herd immunity: When a high percentage of the population is vaccinated, it is difficult for infections and contagious diseases to spread. This is because there are not many people who can be infected.

MONEY AND EARNINGS

A household budget is a plan that summarises your earnings and spending habits, so you have a clear idea of where your cash is going.

Provided you stick to it, a budget plan will help you keep on top of your spending, and make sure you don't fritter away more than you earn.

If you have a financial goal, such as getting out of debt, saving for a mortgage deposit or putting money away for your retirement - it will help you work towards this too.

SUBSTANCE USE AND MISUSE

The term "substance use" refers to the use of drugs or alcohol, and includes substances such as cigarettes, illegal drugs, prescription drugs, inhalants and solvents

Cannabis refers to a group of three plants with psychoactive properties, known as *Cannabis sativa*, *Cannabis indica*, and *Cannabis ruderalis*. Some call it weed, some call it pot, and others call it marijuana.

Nicotine is a chemical that contains nitrogen, which is made by several types of plants, including the tobacco plant. Nicotine is heavily addictive and harmful.

Sucrose is common sugar. For human consumption, sucrose is extracted and refined from either sugarcane or sugar beet and is often found mainly in junk food.

Alcohol is the most widely used drug in the world. There are different types of alcohol. Alcoholic drinks contain the chemical ethanol. Alcohol can be extremely dangerous.

Year 9

PLANS AND GOALS

Personal strengths are the personal skills we use in achieving goals. They are also the skills that help us survive.

Planning is vitally important to success. Here are four reasons why planning is important.

SPECIFIC SMART is an acronym. Therefore, a SMART goal incorporates all of these criteria to help focus your efforts and increase the chances of achieving your goal. SMART goals are: Specific: Well defined, clear, and unambiguous.

MEASURABLE

ACHIEVABLE

RELEVANT

TIME-BASED

GROOMING

Grooming is when someone builds an emotional connection with a child to gain their trust for the purpose of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or trafficking.

Grooming can be more than sexual abuse though. It can also mean influencing people to follow extremist ideas or values such as terrorism.

Radicalisation means the process where someone is led to adopt extreme, political, social and religious ideals and aspirations. This can lead to 'terrorist' activities.

BEING A GOOD CITIZEN

Call 999 in a medical emergency -

When someone is seriously ill or injured and their life is at risk. Wake sure it is safe for you to do this.

MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL ILLNESS

Mental health is a state of well-being in which every individual realises his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully and is able to make a contribution to her or his community.

Mental illness, also called mental health disorders or mental ill-health, refers to a wide range of conditions.

Building resilience is one way for us to manage our mental health. Listen to what these young people have to say about resilience.

TABOO

Bodily Autonomy is defined as the right to self-governance over one's own body without external influence or coercion.

Breast Ironing, also known as breast flattening, is the pounding and massaging of a pubescent girl's breasts, using hard or heated objects, to try to make them stop developing or disappear.

Female genital mutilation (FGM), also known as female genital cutting and female circumcision, is the ritual cutting or removal of some or all of the external female genitalia.

Types of FGM

SUBSTANCES

What it does to your body?	Where it's found?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased heart rate • Increased blood pressure • Increased risk of testicular cancer 	Through the NHS as a prescribed medicine
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feeling more alert and active • Restlessness • Anxiety • Dehydration 	Coffee, tea, energy drinks, chocolate, coca cola
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highly addictive • Can affect the heart, hormones and the gastrointestinal system 	Tobacco, cigarettes, rolling tobacco, and products to support giving up smoking e.g. patches, gums, E-cigarettes, vaping products
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing research suggesting sugar is addictive • Rot's teeth, contributes to obesity • Can increase blood pressure 	Fizzy drinks, sweets, cakes, pastries, alcohol. Hidden sugars in processed foods, cereal, sauces and bread.

Year 10

BALANCE AND HEALTH

Physical health is defined as the condition of your body, taking into consideration everything from the absence of disease to fitness level.

Mental health is not just the absence of mental disorder. It is a state of well-being in which every person realizes his or her own potential.

Balance is one of the most important things we can aim for in life. It's about having a good distribution between work, interests, friends, and family.

DISEASES, STIs AND TREATMENTS

Cardiovascular Disease	Cancer	Diabetes
Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is a general term for conditions affecting the heart or blood vessels.	Cancer is a condition where cells in a specific part of the body grow and reproduce uncontrollably. The cancerous cells can invade and destroy surrounding healthy tissue, including organs.	Diabetes is a condition that causes a person's blood sugar level to be too high.

Stem-cell therapy is the use of stem cells to treat/prevent a disease or condition. Stem-cell therapy has become controversial, this is often related to abortion politics and human cloning.

Organ donation is the process when a person allows an organ of their own to be removed and transplanted to another person, legally, either by consent while the donor is alive or dead with the assent of the next of kin.

An STI is an infection passed from one person to another person through sexual contact. An STI can be passed from one person to another through sexual contact, including vaginal, anal and oral sex. STIs can pass between men and women, and from women to women and men to men.

HEALTH MOT

The model of the determinants of health shows how individual determinants including a person's age, sex and hereditary factors are contained within the wider determinants of health.

Protective Factors: are conditions or attributes in individuals, families, communities or society that help people deal more effectively with stressful events.

Risk Factors: are any attribute, characteristic or exposure of an individual that increase the likelihood of developing a disease, injury or type of 'negative' behaviour.

BEING AN ADULT, RELATIONSHIPS AND THE LAW

Living together and cohabiting are legal but are not legally binding - which changes peoples rights on debt, children, property ownership, etc.

	18	19	21	25	28
Can marry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can get a civil partnership	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can get a divorce	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Can get a civil annulment	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Can get a prenuptial agreement	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Can get a postnuptial agreement	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Can get a will	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can get a power of attorney	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can get a lasting power of attorney	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can get a deputyship	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can get a deputyship order	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can get a deputyship order	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can get a deputyship order	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Domestic abuse is any form of threatening, violent or degrading treatment against a woman or man by their partner

Honour based abuse is committed when a family feels that someone has done something to bring 'dishonour' to a family.

In an arranged marriage both participants give their full consent and enter the marriage willingly. In a forced marriage one or both participants enter the marriage without giving their consent.

EXTRAORDINARY BODIES AND MINDS

Anxiety is a feeling of fear or panic. Symptoms include feeling, frightened, nervous or panicky all the time. You may also feel down or depressed.

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder:
Obsessions: The obsessions may be thoughts or worries that you may get a disease or that something will happen to someone close to you. **Compulsions:** You may carry out rituals, like obsessive hand washing or arranging things in a certain way or repeatedly touching things or counting.

Depression
 Some young people feel sad, lonely, down, anxious or stressed for longer periods of time to the extent that it can **affect their everyday lives** and can prevent that young person from doing things they would normally do

An eating disorder is when you have an unhealthy attitude to food, which can take over your life and make you ill. It can involve eating too much or too little, or becoming obsessed with your weight and body shape. But there are treatments that can help and you can recover from an eating disorder.

SEX

Everyone needs to decide when a sexual relationship is right for them. It is important that you should not ever feel under pressure to do anything. Support is available if you are worried about anything. Remember it's your body and you choice.

Year 11

FUTURE EMPLOYMENT SKILLS

Employment skills of the future:

- Analytical thinking and innovation
- Active learning and learning strategies
- Complex problem-solving
- Critical thinking and analysis
- Creativity, originality and initiative
- Leadership and social influence
- Technology use, monitoring and control
- Technology design and programming
- Resilience, stress tolerance and flexibility
- Reasoning, problem-solving and ideation

PERSONAL HYGIENE AND HEALTH

The following can all lead to risk with an STI or infection:

- Having sex with multiple partners, oral or vaginal
- Not using a condom
- Not using a condom
- Not using a condom
- Sharing needles

CHECK 'EM

Don't let your health slip away.

LOOKING FORWARD TO RELATIONSHIPS

The minimum age you can get married in England is now 18. This applies to both opposite sex and same sex marriages.

Marriage or Civil Partnership:

- Marriages are registered on paper, in a hard copy register.
- The details of a civil partnerships are recorded in an electronic register.
- Marriage is ended by divorce, by both parties obtaining a decree absolute. Some effects of the marriage end when the decree nisi is issued.
- Civil partnerships are ended by dissolution order.
- At the moment, a reason to end a marriage is adultery, however, this is not an accepted reason for dissolving a civil partnership.

PRESSURE IN MY RELATIONSHIP

Consent is defined by section 74 Sexual Offences Act 2003. Someone consents to vaginal, anal or oral penetration only if s/he agrees by choice to that penetration and has the freedom and capacity to make that choice. Consent to sexual activity may be given to one sort of sexual activity but not another, e.g. to vaginal but not anal sex or penetration with condoms, such as wearing a condom. Consent can be withdrawn at any time during sexual activity and each time activity occurs.

MY STRESS LEVELS

The first step towards managing stress is recognising the signs (what someone else might be able to see) and symptoms (what the person might experience).

Usually getting to these is difficult unless you're in the morning.

Constant headache
 Irritability
 Stomach aches and pain
 Poor appetite
 Loss of interest in activities
 Increased anxiety and irritability
 Increased heart rate
 Agitation/Restlessness
 Mooded irritability
 Conflict arising
 Using too many caffeinated energy drinks
 Exacerbated existing health conditions (depressed because system 'flung' 'too down')

HAVING CHILDREN

The Facts

- 52% of all school leavers are first married over 18
- 47% of all new fathers are aged over 30
- 1 in 6 couples have a child in their 20s
- 20% of couples have a child in their 40s
- £24.0 in 1971 vs £28.5 in 2014



Literacy

Mrs D Lewis, English and Literacy

Key Stage 3 Bookclub

We are currently reading *The Magpie Society* and should complete the reading before the next half term. We have been exploring the history and connotations of magpies - see below our research so far... We are looking for more Year 7s and 8s to join us. Why? There are 100 reasons to read - just take a look yourself! On top of this, improving one's reading skills can have an impact on student progress of up to 6 months!



100 REASONS TO READ

naturalbeachliving.com

1. Helps you learn new things
2. Go on an adventure without leaving your house
3. Expand your vocabulary
4. Learn from someone else
5. Sharpens your brain
6. Helps you grow
7. Relaxes you
8. You can try different genres
9. Helps your spelling
10. Makes you happier
11. Increases worldview
12. Helps you dream big
13. Makes you think
14. Helps increase emotional intelligence
15. Lets you learn about new people
16. Kills boredom
17. Shows you a new perspective
18. Challenges your perspective
19. Helps improve your writing
20. Shows you what's possible
21. Helps you focus
22. Improves conversational skills
23. Inspires you
24. Makes you a better leader
25. Gives you fresh ideas
26. Increases attention span
27. Helps you learn a new skill
28. Makes history easier to remember
29. Helps problem solving skills
30. It's fun
31. Helps spend time off electronics
32. Increases reading speed
33. Teaches you fun facts
34. Inexpensive
35. Helps you appreciate new things
36. To explore new places
37. You get to visit the library more
38. Encourages you to think
39. Travel back in time
40. Travel forward in time
41. Travel to a new world!
42. Increases concentration
43. Helps with development
44. Develop empathy
45. Gives you something to do
46. Boosts brain power
47. Helps you in school
48. Takes you on a journey
49. Relieves stress
50. Temporarily escape reality
51. Variety of options
52. Keeps your brain busy
53. Can be great for bonding time
54. Helps you speak better
55. Improves critical thinking
56. Helps you feel smarter
57. Learn something new
58. Great for all age ranges
59. Easily portable
60. Helps you sleep before bed
61. Find inspiration
62. Helps your grammar
63. Improves your brain
64. Builds self confidence
65. Inspires you to try something new
66. Brightens your day
67. Shows you more than the movie
68. Learn about your country's history
69. Gives you something to think about
70. Makes you wonder
71. Experience another culture
72. Keeps you busy
73. Builds self esteem
74. It's entertaining
75. Stimulate your brain
76. Great for self improvement
77. Helps your communication
78. Can make you feel any emotion
79. Gives you something to discuss
80. Makes you feel good
81. Can help you meet new people
82. You can do it anywhere
83. Improve language skills
84. Increases comprehension
85. Helps with story telling
86. Learn how the world works
87. Fuels your imagination
88. Makes you curious
89. Improves your memory
90. Learn more about language
91. Read at your own pace
92. Challenges you
93. Boosts creativity
94. Helps you tell stories better
95. Gives you something to talk about
96. You can read aloud
97. You can read with a friend
98. You can read by yourself
99. There are so many good books
100. Because you can!

World Book Day

We celebrated World Book Day at Brakenhale on Wednesday 1st March. Year 7 and 8 were given the opportunity to come into school in fancy dress as a character from a book and many staff joined in too!

During the day students enjoyed a bespoke English lesson together with a competition for 'best dressed' at lunch in the library. Well done to everyone who took part! Here are some pictures of the awesome outfits we saw on the day!



Matilda Wormwood is a very mature six year old girl who was adopted, she wears a blue dress with a red ribbon in her hair. She is a sweet girl but everyone at her house hates her as she is different because she likes to read but her family hates books and only watches TV. Matilda is a bright child and at school everyone wants to be her friend and is shocked at how smart she is. Matilda is going to the library, she Loves telling the librarian stories she makes up. Despite Matilda's teacher loving her as her student, the head Mistress Miss Trunchbull despises Matilda and tries to lock her away in a chokey with a cupboard full of spikes and wood she puts children she hates in it.

Students had activities on offer in the library throughout the day and a bespoke English lesson where students were asked to introduce/describe a character - have a look below at the excellent pieces of writing from the day.

You would think a ghost was talking but no, just a shy voice in a confident girl. At first she seems to be lifeless but as she carries on talking you see a fun visible side. thought to be shy and kind to a loveable warrior at heart. With white hair and a childlike smile she sits like a swan.

At the moment, the peace was intruded by a ferocious roar. It was no doubt the poor souls attempting to invade the swamp of the merciless ogre, Shrek. Nobody entering its territory has ever escaped the clutches of the green-eared beast, except me. Its features were humanoid, its ears were like deep holes waiting to swallow their next victim and its teeth were crooked. This unhygienic monster showers in mud and plucks out eyes for dinner. Perhaps it is in need of somebody in its life, other than the valley of death surrounding it.

There hung Medusa, sunken into a lonely pit of darkness. She had no purpose, as her life had long been gone, now a weapon of war. Medusa was many's worst nightmare, as she was a horrifying gorgon who killed many men. Her lair had gone overboard with collections of statues, all warriors who tried to slay the beastly thing themselves, she was once a lady, a beautiful one. She was a follower of Athena who had strict rules, if broken you would think to be forgiven, but no. Medusa was pure but was seduced by a God. This was against the rules.

I'm Wednesday, but don't expect me to get as truthful and weak as everyone else here. Nevermore is a dream come true, and that's NOT a good thing. The only reason I'm doing this whole diary thing is because Enid wouldn't stop pestering me until I agreed to have one. I'll wear pink all day if Enid doesn't read this. My pigtails sense danger, leading me right towards it. I'll switch my black polka dotted dress for a pink crop top and jeans if I get my way at school today. I swear if Bianca gets on my nerves again I will keep her pinky as a trophy

Snow, mountains, castles, in a world where pain is a blessing and an army of ice is at your very throat. In a world where the Queen of the cold is in power of the very weather. Who knew a child in fury snow bulging blue vibrant eyes, hair that starts as black as the castle of Hades and a face as pale as a corpse. A girls who's bad habits leads to her victory and how while she's trapped in a secure box when she wakes up tomorrow her life will change the Ursa Major herself

There she stood clutching her sword tightly. She gazed at the other beings admiring their beauty and luxurious swords that appeared as though they were forged in divine fire. She felt as though she was an outlier among the Jews that dares to challenge her but she needed to fight for her position. Even she knew that. Determination flew into her head as she drew her sword up.

Global Journalists

Students of all ages took part in this competition last year for the first time and we have a range of students taking part in it again this year, from Year 7 to 10. If you are interested and would like to take part, please follow the link

<https://theday.co.uk/global-young-journalist-awards/>

You can see Mrs Lewis in F10 too if you have any questions. The deadline for entries is Wednesday 19th April.

National Storytelling Week – Week of 30th January

During this week, Mrs Lewis and Mr Coley ran assemblies with each year group to share the importance of reading and telling stories and how we all write our own stories. During tutor time, a range of different staff members shared their stories. On Friday, students were read a section of 'Lamb to Slaughter' at the beginning of each lesson so by the end of the day the parts added together to make a complete short story and their day was filled with excitement and suspense as they waited for the next section. What will the next chapter of your story look like?



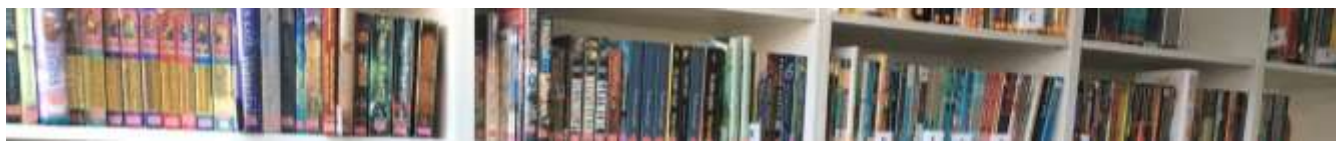
Craft Club

Mrs Patel-Robinson, Teaching Assistant

The Friday craft club is going from strength to strength. This term we have been trying out some new skills; for example, we had a go at felt painting. We started off celebrating the Chinese New Year by making calendars. The highlight of the term was painting canvases for Valentine's day followed by mandala painting on stones. Recently, we challenged the students to construct a 3D structure using foam noodles. This was well received, we had some fantastic creatures created.

The club runs weekly every Friday from 3:05pm to 4:00pm and it is open to all students. It is a fun club aimed at helping students wind down and start off their weekend with a positive mindset. All materials including biscuits and a drink are provided.





LRC Corner: Library Foci

Mrs Daniels, LRC Manager

World Book Day – Celebrated on Wednesday 1st March

We had a display of previous world book day books and activities for the students to take part in.

We had two activities on offer: create a character and design a book cover. To create a superhero character they answered questions using dice. Each characteristic had 6 options, a roll of the dice would decide how the character would progress, such as hair colour, super power, name and phobia. Students built their character and then they could design a book cover for the superhero they now had.

Lunch time saw a line-up of many of the Year 7 and 8 students who dressed up as a character from a book, it was fantastic to see so much enthusiasm.



Careers Week – 6th to 11th March

We had a display during Careers week including laptops showing the National Careers week websites, many quizzes, crosswords and word-searches and prospectus for Colleges and Sixth Forms for students of all years to look at.



World Poetry Day - Tuesday 21st March

The Poetry display we put together to celebrate this day included many poetry books and stories written in poetic verse. UNESCO’s (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) World Poetry Day is held every year on this date to support, promote and celebrate one of humanity’s most treasured forms of cultural and linguistic expression.

Banned Books

We also have a “Banned Book” section; the books here have all, at some point in their lives, been banned somewhere in the world. Some books were banned for very odd reasons such as Animal Farm and Alice in wonderland being banned for having animals that talk or The Wizard of Oz being banned for Depicting women in strong leadership roles.



Identity

Mrs D Lewis, English Teacher

We are currently planning our Pride event. If anyone knows of any performers, speakers or ideas, please do get in contact with Mrs Lewis via email dlewis@brakenhale.co.uk. We have been making badges too!

Identity Weekly Meets

We meet at lunch time on a Friday :)

Identity is a club that welcomes all. We meet each Friday lunchtime. 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 Mrs Mescock.

You can find Mrs Lewis in F10.

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



Inspires Project

Mr Coley, Deputy Headteacher

Over the past 10 weeks a group of Year 10 Students - Ishe, Elisha, Kacie, Megan, Davide, Ronnie, Darcie and Harry - have been working with Reading FC and the Premier League to support a social action project.

Premier League Inspires is an education programme, introduced in 2019, developed by the Premier League and professional football clubs. The programme is aimed at young people aged between 11-25 and brings together learnings from previous PL programmes such as PL Enterprise, PL Works as well as the Prince's Trust Achieve course.

Our students have worked incredibly hard to plan, prepare and deliver a pitch for a social action project. A few weeks ago both groups delivered their pitch at Reading FC Stadium in front of Premier League representatives and Reading FC management. One of these groups were the **WINNERS!** *Congratulations to Ronnie, Ishe, Darcie and Davide.*

This week they have been back to Reading FC stadium to pitch their project again (virtually) to teams across the country, who have been supported by other professional football clubs; the aim is to then over the coming weeks complete their social action project with the ultimate goal of going to the Grand Final in the summer term at Southampton FC.

We wish all of the students the best of luck, and if you see them promoting their social action project - get involved and support them!

Well done to all of them and a massive thank you to Reading FC for their involvement, invitation and support.

SEN Update

Mrs J Fear, SENCo

GEMS – Autism & ADHD Support Service for East Berkshire

Please find below information regarding social sessions run by GEMS. These activities are for young people with a diagnosis of, or who may have autism and / or ADHD. Please email GEMS to book a space on any of the activities.



GEMS
WOLF PACK
AGES 11 TO 15

SECOND FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH @ 4.30PM TO 6PM

Registration:
 GEMS@healthgems.net
 0800 898 1342

Criteria:
 Children with or likely to have ADHD &/or Autism & living in East Berkshire

Activities
 13/01/23 Bracknell - Sport in Mind event
 10/02/23 Slough - Sport in Mind event
 10/03/23 Maidenhead - Pizza & Table top games - please note: cost applicable

*Please note activities may be subject to change.

More Information: 0800 898 1342 WWW.GEMSEALTH.COM



GEMS
DIAMONDS
AGES 25 & OVER

1ST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH 6PM TO 8PM

Registration:
 GEMS@healthgems.net
 0800 898 1342

Criteria:
 Adults with or likely to have ADHD &/or Autism & living in East Berkshire

Activities
 06/04/23 - Online - Create a sun catcher
 04/05/23 - Online - King's Coronation cake decorating
 01/06/23 - Online - Around the World quiz

*Please note activities may be subject to change.

More Information: 0800 898 1342 / www.gemsealth.co.uk

GEMS CONNECTIONZ
AGES 16 TO 24

LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH @ 6.30PM TO 8PM

Registration:
GEMS@wslh@nhs.net
0800 898 1342

Criteria:
Young adults with or likely to have ADHD &/or Autism & living in East Berkshire

Activities
31/01/23 - Maidenhead - Origami
28/02/23 - Slough - Quiz Night
28/03/23 - Bracknell - Bowling - please note: cost applicable

*Please note activities may be subject to change

More Information: 0800 898 1342 WWW.GEMSHALTH.COM

GEMS
01753 373 244 / 0800 999 1342
weekdays 9am to 5pm
https://www.gemshhealth.com
gemsh4health@nhs.net

GEMS is for children, young people and adults who are diagnosed with, or who may have, autism and/or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). The service also supports parents and carers and is open to anyone living in Slough, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead or Bracknell Forest.

WHAT DO WE PROVIDE?
Whatever stage of your autism/ADHD journey, whether likelihood, pre-assessment or post diagnosis... GEMS offers a single point of contact where you can access information, advice and support.

- For parents and carers: Workshops, courses & animated learnings.
- For children and young people aged 5 & over: a programme of social groups
- A range of signposting to local & national services

Logos: autism, Frimley Health, NHS Frimley

Safeguarding Update

Mrs T Gosling, Designated Safeguarding Lead and Team

Free On-line Parenting Courses for Local Residents

Frimley Health and Care ICS has partnered with the Solihull Approach to sponsor FREE online courses developed by psychologists and professionals.

These courses are designed to help parents/carers understand your child’s feelings, as well as focus on your own feelings as you go through life as a family. You will also learn to understand the changes in your child’s development and how to make the most out of each relationship.

These courses come highly recommend – they are for everyone, for everyday parenting. They don’t tell you how to parent, that’s up to you. Instead, they give you a framework for understanding what might be going on and space to think about how you want to respond. There are also courses just for teenagers.

<https://solihullapproachparenting.com/online-courses-frimley/>

ONLINE course for FRIMLEY residents*
*ASCOT • BRACKNELL • MAIDENHEAD • NORTH-EAST HAMPSHIRE • SLOUGH • WINDSOR • SOUTH-BUCKS

Register Online and gain FREE (prepaid) access*

Part of the Solihull Approach series
14 Modules
Available 24/7

Go to: www.inourplace.co.uk and enter the 'access code'

PARENTING
(Please note: Surrey residents must use ACCESS CODE: ACORN)
To return to the courses, go to www.inourplace.co.uk and sign in

Understanding your child with additional needs
For everyone around the child: Mum, Dad, grandparents, friends and relations

For technical support contact: solihullapproach@nhs.uk or call 0121 296 4448 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Online course for Frimley residents*
*ASCOT • BRACKNELL • FARNHAM • MAIDENHEAD • NORTH-EAST HAMPSHIRE • SLOUGH • WINDSOR • SOUTH-BUCKS

'Understanding your brain (for teenagers only!)

- Have you noticed changes in your behaviour?
- Do you sleep more than you used to?
- Want to know why teenagers are more open-minded?

Your brain is changing! Find out more!

Go to: www.inourplace.co.uk and enter the 'access code'

PARENTING
to gain FREE (prepaid) access where eligible

For technical support, contact: solihullapproach@nhs.uk or call 0121 296 4448 Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

Lily-Jo Project Supporting Mental Health

We are working with The Lily-Jo Project this year to help support the mental health of children. The site includes information and help on common mental health issues and we wanted to signpost their resources, including a free parenting resource with tips, tools, and articles created specifically to support parents.

You will find: Webinars, Blogs, Podcasts, Music and more!

www.thelilyjoproject.com/parents



Oxwell Student Survey

Our students took part in the OxWell Student Survey during tutor time, between 13th March and 21st March. This is an online school-based study by the University of Oxford that directly asks students about their mental health, well-being and school experience. Over 30,000 children and young people in England have taken part so far, and we hope to have the results to share with you about our young people towards the end of the summer term.

Behaviour Support for Families

This support is for families struggling with their child’s problem behaviour.



Positive Behaviour Support Family Courses
Free-to-access online PBS courses for families/carers in Berkshire.

- Overview of PBS**: This half day course (9:30-12:30) is designed to give an overview of what Positive Behavioural Support is, how it works and how it can support improving quality of life.
Course Dates: February 8th, April 25th, June 13th, September 12th, October 4th
- Practical Strategies**: If you have attended the Overview of PBS course, you can access this one-day Practical Strategies course. This will show you how to implement PBS within the home setting.
Course Dates: May 23rd, October 10th, Nov 15th
- PBS Family Course**: This course looks in-depth at what PBS is, how to build rapport, how to look after yourself as well as proactive and reactive strategies to support quality of life and reduce behaviours of concern.
The course is six 2-hour sessions over six weeks with access to an experienced behavioural analyst to talk about your individual needs.
Course Dates (am and pm sessions): February 14th, June 6th, April 4th, August 1st

To book onto a course, go to Eventbrite and search Berkshire PBS. Alternatively, email: tom@pbscooperative.org.uk

PBS Cooperative

Action for Happiness

Find out more information here: <https://www.actionforhappiness.org/> or download the FREE Action for Happiness app for iOS or Android:

Active April: Movement can bring amazing benefits for our minds and bodies – Let’s find ways to get moving and stay active and healthy.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1. 10:00-11:00: Mindfulness for children	2. 10:00-11:00: Mindfulness for children	3. 10:00-11:00: Mindfulness for children	4. 10:00-11:00: Mindfulness for children	5. 10:00-11:00: Mindfulness for children	6. 10:00-11:00: Mindfulness for children
7. 11:00-12:00: Mindfulness for children	8. 11:00-12:00: Mindfulness for children	9. 11:00-12:00: Mindfulness for children	10. 11:00-12:00: Mindfulness for children	11. 11:00-12:00: Mindfulness for children	12. 11:00-12:00: Mindfulness for children
13. 12:00-1:00: Mindfulness for children	14. 12:00-1:00: Mindfulness for children	15. 12:00-1:00: Mindfulness for children	16. 12:00-1:00: Mindfulness for children	17. 12:00-1:00: Mindfulness for children	18. 12:00-1:00: Mindfulness for children
19. 1:00-2:00: Mindfulness for children	20. 1:00-2:00: Mindfulness for children	21. 1:00-2:00: Mindfulness for children	22. 1:00-2:00: Mindfulness for children	23. 1:00-2:00: Mindfulness for children	24. 1:00-2:00: Mindfulness for children
25. 2:00-3:00: Mindfulness for children	26. 2:00-3:00: Mindfulness for children	27. 2:00-3:00: Mindfulness for children	28. 2:00-3:00: Mindfulness for children	29. 2:00-3:00: Mindfulness for children	30. 2:00-3:00: Mindfulness for children
31. 3:00-4:00: Mindfulness for children	32. 3:00-4:00: Mindfulness for children	33. 3:00-4:00: Mindfulness for children	34. 3:00-4:00: Mindfulness for children	35. 3:00-4:00: Mindfulness for children	36. 3:00-4:00: Mindfulness for children

Dear Year 7 Parents/Carers and Students

Best wishes,

We find ourselves at the end of another term and we are $\frac{2}{3}$ of the way through your first year here at Brakenhale. I would like to personally acknowledge each and every one of you for your individual successes and how you have fully transitioned into secondary school. As a year group, the manner in which you conduct yourselves is fantastic, you demonstrate this within your lessons and how you have fully involved yourselves in the wider school community. I am truly excited to follow your journey and be part of your accomplishments. I am so very impressed with the way you demonstrate our three core values; Aim High, Be Kind and Take Responsibility, day in and day out, in and outside of school.

Every two weeks in assembly we celebrate the tutor group with the highest achievement points. Please see below the current score table. Well done to reigning champions... 7R! This shows that everything you do counts, every achievement point you receive goes towards your overall tutor achievement points.

Tutor Group achievement points:

7R	2938	7B	2423
7N	2843	7A	2363
7K	2711	7H	2660

It really is a pleasure to celebrate each and every golden ticket during every time they are issued. It is important to recognise who is going above and beyond in their lessons. I would like to congratulate our **top 5 golden ticket winners** since September 2022.

Daniel K	7N	220
Chantelle W	7A	192
Oliwier M	7N	185
David S	7R	162
Mia B	7H	161

Messages from tutors:

7B: I'm so proud of 7B and how they have grown since September. From shy, reserved Year 6s, 7B have become a class of effervescent, self-assured, and positive individuals who have developed strong relationships and a great sense of community. We've set goals as a tutor group, and I'm delighted that they recently surpassed the one that we set together for attendance. Next up is our goal for house points and behaviour, and I am confident that 7B will show the same energy, dedication and good humour that they demonstrate to me every day in order to achieve this target. *Miss Reggler*

7R: The transition phase for 7R from primary school to secondary is highly admirable. I have been with them more than a month now, they never cease to amaze me each day with their unique perspective towards school's vision and values. They are keen towards strengthening their potential. They earn house points and golden tickets in each and every lesson, which has never gone unnoticed. And the best thing I like about 7R is they're always willing to lend a hand when needed; they're very kind. I am continually impressed by their results in academics and sports events. *Miss Bagga*

7A: It has been a positive transition to secondary school for all students in 7A. The whole group has impressed me by demonstrating that they could meet Brakenhale's school standards. I see acts of kindness on a daily basis, individual's maturing and taking responsibility for themselves, and lots of examples of an 'aim high' attitude to learning. The group is nicely bonded and we enjoy each other's company during tutor time each morning, setting goals for the day ahead and staying positive when facing setbacks. I am really looking forward to seeing what the future holds for such a diverse and talented set of young people! *Mr Wells*



7K: What can I say 7K, you are all absolutely amazing. I cannot believe how fast this year is going and how much you have all changed in such a short time. I love being your tutor and am so proud of you all for the way you have embraced Brakenhale and all the opportunities available to you. In 7K we have such talented sports people, dancers, actors, artists and academics. We have lovely kind and caring students where I regularly see such great examples of what being a good friend is to each other. I have seen such resilience, bravery and determination to get through the tough days as well as embracing the fun times and putting yourself out there with school performances and sporting teams/events. Keep aiming high, keep being kind, inclusive, and awesome. Well done for two fabulous terms, have a wonderful Easter and a well-deserved break. *Mrs Faluyi*

7E: 7E have come a long way since their first, tentative steps into Brakenhale in September! Personalities have blossomed and their maturity and confidence has grown considerably over the past 6 months. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the members of 7E as individuals as well as a group, celebrating their successes and having some really wonderful, uplifting conversations with them on a daily basis. *Mr Budden*

7N: The change between Primary school and starting Secondary school is massive! It can be challenging, worrying, and exciting, but forms an essential part of everyone's individual journey. 7N have made this transition look easy! They have had to learn to become more independent - taking responsibility for the equipment needed day-to-day, familiarising themselves with lots of new faces (teachers as well as classmates), and navigating a much larger and busier school. Despite a few hiccups along the way, 7N have worked together brilliantly as a team. They have made strong friendships, had many positive interactions, and support each other daily which has made the transition that much easier. They are an amazing group and have been a joy to get to know! *Miss Scott*

7H: The progress of 7H has been astronomical! The shift from Primary school into Secondary school is huge; you have to learn how to navigate a much larger school, bring in the correct books and Tools for Learning, and meet all your new classmates and teachers - but 7H made it look easy. There were wobbles but they made close, supportive friendships and worked well as a cohesive team, making the change so much easier. They've been fantastic! Thank you. *Miss Gooding*

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Mr Coley who has been our SLT lead since September. Mr Coley played a vital part with your transition process into Brakenhale. I would like to thank Mr Coley for the support and guidance that he has shown the students at Brakenhale, not only in Year 7 but across the wider community. I am sure you will join me in wishing Mr Coley the best of luck for the future as he moves to a Deputy Headteacher position in another Greenshaw school.

Final Message

As we begin the 2 week holiday please remember to stay safe. Spend some well-deserved time with your friends and families. Please ensure you are school ready and your uniform is correct along with your tools for learning for when you return. This ensures you are in the best possible position for learning.

Have a lovely break and come back ready to take on the challenges of your final term in Year 7!

Best wishes,

Miss Wilson, Head of Year 7 and the Year 7 Team

Dear Year 8 Parents/Carers and Students

It's incredible that we are at the end of the second school term, with less than 4 months to go before you start Year 9! As usual this is an opportunity for us as a Year team to showcase your successes over the last few weeks.

We are incredibly proud of the extra-curricular work some of you have taken part in. We have many cadets in CCF who this last weekend took on the mammoth task of walking 800 miles as a group. We commend you for your dedication to such a wonderful cause and for giving up your weekend and painful legs to help someone else in need!

Louie D became the British Schoolboy Boxing Champion meaning he is the best in the country! What an accolade and accomplishment! We are very proud of you Louie!

The biggest winners of golden tickets this term are: Josh E, Ren, Xae, Lily J and Ruby-Louise.

The biggest winners of house points this term are: Josh B, Ryan T, Kakun, Bodie, Tineale, Bella A, Ella J, Esosa, Lewis A and Michael O.

Amazing work everyone - and keep up the hard word!

The leadership board between tutor groups has had some movement with 8E being taken off the top spot by 8A, and 8B have climbed to 6th place! We have 2 half terms to go until the final winner is revealed. Keep pushing yourself to win house points and golden tickets as every little helps!

1st - 8A 5th - 8R

2nd - 8E 6th - 8B

3rd - 8N 7th - 8K

4th - 8H

We have had an extra push on attendance this half term and Miss Appleton and I set just over 40 of you a challenge to improve your attendance. We have been blown away by your resilience and dedication to coming to school every day, come rain or shine! We hope as we move into the summer and the warmer weather we will have less illness and will be able to boost our attendance as a year group even more.

It truly is a pleasure to be your Head of Year and Assistant Head of Year and witness you maturing and becoming kind, well rounded members of society.

Have a fabulous Easter. Take time to relax and spend time with your loved ones. We hope that you can come back refreshed and ready to take on your last term as Year 8s!

Tutor Messages

8B - After another term filled with achievements and success, we have finally made it to Easter!

Thank you 8B for always listening intently during Tutor Reading, for coming up to me in the corridor during the day to show off the excellent ways in which you have aimed high and earned yourselves Golden Tickets, and for the way in which you have mastered " $y=mx+c$ " in line up! It continues to be a pleasure to call you my form group, and I love seeing the pride you have when you earn those house points, and show kindness to each other every day. Make sure you find time to reflect on your achievements this term, and how you can make these even more spectacular when we begin the summer term in a few weeks. For now, it is time to enjoy a well-deserved rest, hopefully with some spring-like fresh air! Take care, and enjoy! - Miss Moore

8R - Well done for another fantastic term. You've all done really well so far and should be proud of yourselves! Let's get that lowest behaviour point trophy again this year! - Mr Fitcher

8A - Congratulations for making it through another term at Brakenhale. We are officially one term away from being in Year 9. I'm not sure about you, but I feel like this year has been flying by! Ensure that you get enough rest over the next two weeks so that you come back to school refreshed and ready to grab the top spot for Year 8 house points. I know we can do it. Have a wonderful Easter break. - Mr Lloyd-Ahmed



8K - You have been an amazing tutor group this term, it has been great to start and finish every day seeing your enthusiastic and smiling faces first! Have a brilliant Easter break and I look forward to seeing you for the summer term! - Mr Mavromichalis

8E - 8E you have all been amazing again this term. Well done for all of your hard work and efforts during this time. I am very proud of you all trying your best at all times and always aiming high! - Miss Kaur

8N - You have had a great start to 2023. I am looking forward to this continuing for the rest of the academic year. We currently have the 3rd highest house points in the year group, let's keep working hard to get to 1st place. - Miss Whitehead

8H - Wow 8H another term has gone and when we return it will be the Summer Term!!!! When you all return please bring some sunshine back with you! This term has been a productive one with some great ROA scores from you all that makes me proud to be your tutor seeing and hearing how well you're doing and how you're applying yourself. We have had a few absences this term sadly and I'm hoping that we can have a big push for 8H on attendance, Golden Tickets and attendance when we return. I will be bringing back some of our breakfast / sweet treat challenges to keep you all focused and looking to claw back towards the top of the tutor points tally!! Finally, I hope you all have a great Easter and find time to spend with loved ones and make some good memories that I'd love to hear about upon your safe return. So be safe, have fun and don't eat too many chocolate eggs!!! - Mr Maye

Ms Douse, Head of Year 8 and the Year 8 Team

Dear Year 9 Parents/Carers and Students

Term two is now behind us and we are two-thirds of the way through the academic year. It has been an important one for us as we have been focussing on making our GCSE subject choices, decisions that will have a profound impact on our futures going forward. By the time you have read this, you will have made your choices and you will be waiting to hear back in June as to whether these can be taken. As we relayed at the Choices Information Evening, in the majority of cases, students are able to take their first choice subjects without bother. However, as you can imagine, timetabling can be a very difficult game of chess and for some logistical reasons, this may not always be possible. This is why we select reserve subjects as well. I look forward to reading about which subjects you have picked.

This week I had the privilege of hosting our termly celebration and rewards assembly for Year 9, which is always amongst my favourite parts of my role of Head of Year. We were able to highlight some great examples of success both inside and outside of the classroom. Some out of classroom successes included those that took part in our production of Matilda at the very end of last half term. Isabella, Maja, Zebi, Abby, Chloe, Jonathan, Daisy, Annie, Bryony, Zoe, Gracie, Rylee and Sarah all had substantial roles in this production. I cannot begin to express the pride I felt watching these students throw themselves outside of their comfort zones when I went to see the show on the closing evening. It was an amazing show and I am already looking forward to the next one, of which I am sure these students will seek to be involved in again.

We were also able to highlight two of our school success stories, the first being Jaya B and her Cheerleading team, Kick Twist. They took part in the Allstar Cheerleading Competition last weekend in Nottingham where they achieved first place. Another success was Bobby D, who took part in a competitive swimming competition last weekend and had many successes. Bobby regularly trains 4-5 times per week and was able to smash PBs as well as achieve a bronze medal for his hard work. As on-lookers, we often only see the success or the final outcome that an individual achieves. What we do not see is the hours and hours of hard work, dedication and practice that goes into these successes. All of these students mentioned above are shining examples of this and very much personify our school values of aiming high and taking responsibility.

Finally, we were able to recognise some of our in-school and in-class successes by announcing some winners to our regular end of term award categories. I very much asked for heavy input from Tutors for this as it is important to me that we recognise those that don't always get the attention and recognition they deserve. Sometimes by going about our day and doing the right thing, without having to ask, we can slip slightly under the radar. It is important that we reduce this as much as possible and our end of term awards are always a great opportunity to do that. Our winners are this term are here:

Academic Excellence	Aleksej K
Most Improved Term	Ava J
Resilience	Tillie H
Above and Beyond	Lexi S
Be Kind	Ruby Mae-G
Aim High	Aiden J
Take Responsibility	Ronnie C
Spirit of Year 9	Maja S and Isabella QC

I would like to thank Mr Coley on behalf of all of our Year 9 students and Year team for all of his support throughout our time at Brakenhale School.

Mr Coley played a large role in supporting us through our transition to Brakenhale and has been instrumental in our successes ever since. As Mr Coley moves on to a new school (within the GLT family), we would like to wish him the very best.

Finally, I would like to wish all of our families a relaxing Easter break. If you're anything like me, you may have a list of jobs around the house that need doing such as getting the garden ready for the Summer or clearing out wardrobes! How ever you spend your Easter break, please be safe and ready to return for our final term of KS3 in a couple of weeks' time.

Mr McKane, Head of Year 9 and the Year 9 Team

Dear Year 10 Parents/Carers and Students

What a great but busy term this has been for Year 10. With the exam content ramping up, students have already been sitting exams to form part of their courses; Health and Social Care mounting up an impressive 12 hours in formal examinations. Well done to each and every one of you for all of your hard work and commitment shown so far.

This term we have been helping the students to prepare for the world that awaits them after school. Mrs Allum (Careers Lead) has done a wonderful job in organising a "Drop down day" to really get our students engaged and consider their career choices for the future. From CV writing, to investigating career options, topped off with formal interviews, the day proved to be a real success. The highlight for us as a year team was seeing the students come to life and speak passionately about what they want to do in the future as well as how they were going to do it. Thank you to all of the students for really embracing the day.

Year 10 Success

There are so many successes and students that we could mention and we are proud of each and every one of you. So here is a small selection below of this term's successes.

Achievement Points

Top 3 achievement points This year with 0 behaviour points			Top 3 achievement points This term with 0 behaviour points	
Rohita VK (10K)	235		Rohita VK (10K)	152
Chanel C (10H)	234		Caitlyn I (10R)	104
Caitlyn I (10 R)	224		Sarah E (10N)	97

Total achievement points this year			Rank Order for attendance this term	
E	4103		K	
N	3659		B	
H	3408		E	
B	3342		N	
R	3250		A	
K	3093		R	
A	3008		H	

As Mr Coley has already mentioned, Ishe M (10B) has been involved in the Premier League Inspires Project, working with Reading FC to fulfil a Social Action Project within the local community. He and nine other students formed two teams who worked together to promote and share their project ideas - Ishe and his team WON! He and his team will now create and implement the social action project, presenting it at a virtual event with the aim to go to the final later this year at Southampton FC. Well done Ishe, his team and all who have taken part.

We are delighted to let you know that Daniela SC has been successful in the Young Writer's Integer competition and will have her work published. For this, students had to write a story inspired by numbers. Very well done to you, Daniela.

As a new term is just around the corner and a well-deserved break awaits you all, we would like to wish you all a Happy Easter and we look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 18th April.



Miss Manning, Head of Year 10 and the Year 10 Team

Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers and Students

Well Year 11, not too many of these left before you leave us as a Year group and move on to new adventures either in Sixth Form, College or on an Apprenticeship!

It has been, yet again, another busy half term for you with lots of different events going on. The biggest event you have got yourselves through this half term was your second round of Pre-Public Exams. We know that these exams are a stressful time for you but they will form a huge part of informing us and you about where you are and what we can be doing to support you through the last few weeks we have before those exams start for real in the Summer. We really hope that the results you have been receiving back truly reflect the hard work and effort you put into making these as successful as you possibly could. If you are pleased with your results then it is now about maintaining what you have been doing and looking for some marginal gains to really push those results further. If you are not too pleased with how you did, take some time over Easter to reflect on where you can make small improvements to your revision that could lead to increases during the Summer exam period.

There are 4 school weeks left before the start of your summer exams which begin on Monday 15th May. This means there are 18 school days, or 90 lessons remaining. Time is now running out and you need to make sure that you are making the most of every single one of those lessons as your teachers are busy planning these final few vital lessons for you. Now, more than ever, it is really important that you are attending school every single day and attending every single lesson. These last few weeks will be the most important and will really help you go into the Summer exam season feeling confident, so please do not squander these last opportunities to be with the experts of the subjects you are taking.

This half term you have had several outside speakers all come and impart their knowledge and give you their bits of advice on how to be successful. We had the Life Skills Company come in and deliver the other revision

strategies that evidence shows work at helping retain knowledge and lead to great outcomes. Make sure that you are following their advice and varying the revision techniques you are utilising to keep it as exciting as you can, and remember some of these strategies will work better for certain topics and subjects than others. You will need to be flexible with how you are approaching this. We also had a session from Miss Burden who delivered a workshop on managing stress, in particular exam stress. We hope you found this useful and will be able to employ some of the strategies she gave you. Hopefully it'll make the summer exams that little bit easier to navigate through. We also had Hezron Brown come in and deliver his motivational story about seizing every opportunity as you never know where it could lead to. A huge thank you to those that stayed behind on a Friday to listen to him, I found it quite inspiring myself so please do take on board his message and make the most of every opportunity you are given.



One such opportunity is the Easter School that we will be running for you as Year 11. Some teachers are giving up part of their holiday to come into school and deliver targeted lessons for certain students. If you have been invited in, then please do turn up and make the most of this opportunity. It has been designed to help you achieve the best that you can. It is also worth Prom Points, so if you are a few short, this is the perfect way to make up some additional points.

In addition, school is open almost every day for a University-library-style vibe of revision in the canteen - we will have snacks, spare flash cards and other revision materials, and a calm quiet space to revise - [sign up here](#) and come along in your own clothes with books to revise, from Monday 3rd to Thursday 6th and Tuesday 11th to Thursday 13th April, from 10am to 2pm.

Easter is one of your final opportunities to ensure that you have all your revision materials in order, so do take some time over this period to get yourself ready for the final push. It is also a perfect opportunity to also get in some serious study, even if it is a few hours every day. The short time pain of using some of your holiday to prepare will manifest and long term gain when you go into those first exams feeling confident that you are going to smash them because of all the hard work you have done.

As always, you have been smashing this year and we are now into the home straight, keep the focus and effort and you are going to be successful this summer.

Have a great Easter!

Mr Hilton, Head of Year 11 and the Year 11 Team

Dear Sixth Form Parents/Carers and Students

It has been a busy, yet rewarding term. We really appreciate and commend the efforts that students have put into their studies. We are officially two thirds of the way through the academic year – the time has flown by! Entering the spring season means that we are greeted with brighter mornings and later sunsets. This is certainly something to be grateful for and an indication that the warmer weather is slowly approaching. That said, we are not in 'summer mode' just yet, as exams are right around the corner!

Well done to all the Year 12 and 13s who completed 2 weeks of PPEs. Once again you represented the school in an exemplary manner. If you were awarded with the grades you were hoping for – excellent work! This is a clear demonstration that resilience, hard work, and commitment pays off. If you did not do well on your papers, we hope you have recognised where there are gaps in your learning, and have created a revision plan moving forward. Speak with your teachers, ask them for advice, and attend the extra revision sessions being offered. At the end of the day, these were simply mock exams, so there is still time to make those marginal gains before the real thing.

Equally, remember that revision can be undertaken in many different ways. Some of the possible methods are included here. Find a technique that works for you, and employ it! If you require any support with this, please come to see someone in the P16 team.

On the topic of aspirations and aiming high, this term provided Year 12s with the opportunity to visit one of the best universities in the world – Cambridge. Students were given a taste of university life when they visited Selwyn College. After an introductory presentation on university applications, current Cambridge students took Year 12s on a campus tour and answered questions regarding university life. Students then had the opportunity to dine in a university hall, followed by a visit to a Science or History museum. Finally, students ended by day with a Q&A session undertaken by university tutors and current students. It was a long, but very informative day. University planning will begin when we return from the Easter holidays, so we hope that his trip helped you reflect on where you see yourself in the future and the path you want to pursue.



Easter Holidays and A-Levels/BTECs

You should be spending a significant amount of the Easter holidays revising for your upcoming exams that are just around the corner. Please ensure you have a revision plan and stick to it. Some teachers are giving up their time to run extra revision sessions - this is because they care and want to see you do well. Attending these sessions will aid your results in the summer. The canteen will also be open between 10am and 2pm Monday to Thursday for quiet, independent revision. Please do use this space if you need it. That said, please take some time to relax and do things you enjoy. It is important for your mental health to get outside and take your mind away from the pressures of your upcoming A-levels and BTECs. It is so important for you to take care of your mind and body. You can't pour from an empty cup. In other words, you can only do your best when you are at your best. Self-Care matters!

<p>Map It Create a mind map of the key points</p>	<p>Journey It Remember lists of information by plotting stages on a journey</p>	<p>Index It Transfer the key points to index cards</p>
<p>Story It Create a wacky and vivid story using the key points</p>	<p>Mnemonic It Use the first letter of key words to create a sentence</p>	<p>Teach It Create a presentation about the key points and teach it to someone</p>
<p>Flip It Write questions and answers and flip it anywhere</p>	<p>Timeline It Place key points along a line in date order</p>	<p>Sing It Set key points or come together: music/vap</p>
<p>Record It Use your mobile to record yourself explaining the key points and play it back regularly</p>	<p>Post It Write key words on to Post Its and stick them around your room</p>	<p>Comic It Create your own comic strip using the key points</p>

On the topic of self-care, thank you to all P16 students who completed the Countdown to Exams survey. Feedback is a gift and the best way to support you is knowing how you are feeling, as well as what you need from us. Miss Loj and Miss Manlay will be sitting down to discuss the results of the survey and creating a plan of action moving forward in the lead up to exams. If you have any questions, or would like to discuss how else we can support P16 students, please come to have a conversation with us.

Preparations for the Year 13 are well underway. Thank you to the Sixth Form Leadership for all of the work that will go into making this a really special evening. This year we will be holding Prom at The Hilton, St. Anne’s Manor in Bracknell. More information regarding prices and payment will be released soon, so watch this space!

At this point in your lives, you are becoming young adults who are looked up to and can make a difference within your community. As the role models of this school you carry a real responsibility in the tone and presence you set. Please remember this.

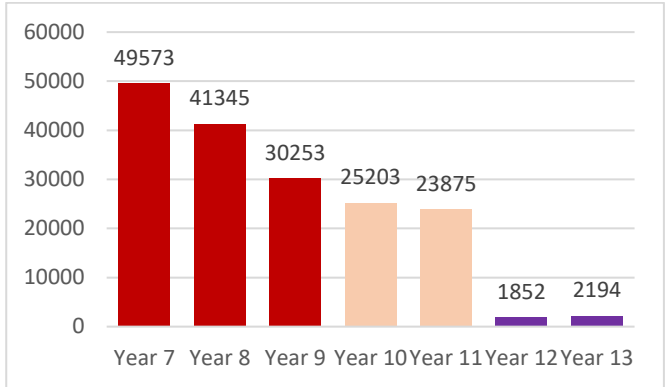
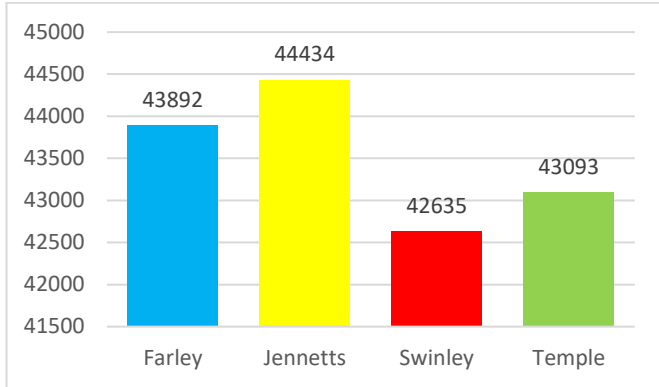
We look forward to welcoming you back for your final term in 2 weeks’ time.

Have a lovely holiday. 🐰🥚🌷🍷

The Sixth Form Team: Ms Manlay, Head of Sixth Form; Ms Loj; Head of Year 12 & 13

School Houses and Housepoints

Pastoral Team



School Dining Hall

Mr Asran, Chef Manager - 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
- 10.50 – 11.20 Break-time
- 13.10 – 2.00 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

There is an online platform to make this process easier and simpler and we would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to register.

Please 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.

Brakenhale School		Price	
		Regular	Large
MEALS			
Main Meal		£2.20	
Meal Deal (Main meal + £0.60 drink or pudding)		£2.80	
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	
SNACKS			
Pizza		£1.25	
Pastas		£1.80	
Beef / Chicken / Veggie Burger		£1.60	
Hot Wings		£1.80	
Chicken Nuggets / Popcorn		£1.60	
Hot Dogs		£1.60	
Lentil Kababs		£1.60	
Rapids		£1.60	
Chicken Wings Pot		£1.80	
Potato Wedges		£0.80	
Waffles		£0.60	
Cookies		£0.50	
DRINKS			
Cold Drinks Range	From	£0.50 to £0.80	
Hot Drinks		£1.00	
Fresh Juices		£0.80	£1.00
Ice Cream / Lollies		£0.50	

From November 2022



School Reminders

School Office

Student Contact Information

Please ensure that you keep the school updated with any changes to your contact details, especially email addresses and mobile phone numbers.



We use schoolcomms messages to keep you updated on information regarding your students. If for any reason you are not receiving our messages, please call the school office and we will be happy help.

If we do not hold any email contacts for you, this will result in a delay to you receiving messages as paper copies will need to be sent home by post.

School Gateway App

This app provides you with the opportunity to be able to view your child's achievements and check their weekly timetable.



If you have any problems accessing information, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Biometrics

We use fingerprint scanning at school as a safe a secure way for students to take their books from the library and also to purchase their food from the canteen. If your child has not had their fingerprint taken, they can do this take by going to the Library during break or lunchtimes. They will need to have a consent form completed and signed before the fingerprints can be taken.



Please contact the school office for more information.

ParentPay

ParentPay is the easiest way to make payments for your son/daughter's lunch money and any trips your child will be attending. If you do not currently have a login for ParentPay, please contact the school office who will be able issue you with details. If you are experiencing any problems with your account, please contact us.



Please ensure that sufficient money is added to your child's dinner money account and accounts are kept in credit to enable students to purchase their food.

Cycling to School

Student safety is really important to us.

At Brakenhale we welcome our students 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 but also ask students bring a lock to offer further security.

We encourage 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.

Ready for School and Uniform

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.

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.

Please remember to name all items. Any lost property items not collected by the end of each term will be disposed or given to charity.

**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: 8.45am to 8.55am
and **Break Time**



**BRAKENHALE
SCHOOL**
Aim High | Be Kind | Take Responsibility



**GREENSHAW
LEARNING TRUST**

Correct School Uniform





Plain outdoor coat.
Dark coloured (Black, grey, navy) only.
Black Brakenhale School blazer.
Optional Brakenhale school jumper.
White shirt, tucked in, buttoned at the neck.
School Tie. Tie to be touching the waistband.
Plain black tailored trousers
Or
Brakenhale School skirt, Brakenhale Logo to be visible at all times.
Plain ankle height socks (Black, white, navy or grey only).
Or
Plain black tights.
Plain, polishable black shoes. Black trainers are not permitted.
Brakenhale school bag.

Piercings
One small stud in the ear lobe only.
No facial piercings permitted.



Make-up
Make-up should be natural in appearance.

Nails and Jewellery
Nails should be natural in appearance.
Jewellery should be limited to one wristwatch and one plain ring.



Brakenhale 

Lost Property

Have you lost something? Don't forget

Email us on: lostproperty@brakenhale.co.uk

Please make sure your items are named so that we can return them promptly.

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.

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



Aim High | Be Kind | Take Responsibility

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Cycling to school is good for the environment and our health.

CYCLE SAFETY

Wear a safety helmet,
use the bike
store and ride in
a safe manner.

Ensure the bike is road worthy, safe and has
working brakes.

Thank You



Brakenhale School

NO  **SMOKING**

COULD WE PLEASE
REMAND EVERYONE
THAT SMOKING IS
NOT PERMITTED
ANYWHERE ON THE
BRAKENHALE SITE

Could we please remind students and visitors to
PLEASE KEEP OFF THE GRASS
at the front of the school to avoid
damaging the growth and
tracking mud into
the school

Thank You



Brakenhale School

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 Aim High | Be Kind | Take Responsibility

Brakenhale School Tools for Learning



TOOLS FOR LEARNING EQUIPMENT
Filled Pencil Case, Scientific Calculator
Student Planner (includes whiteboard on back cover)

LARGE TRANSPARENT PENCIL CASE to include:

3 Black or Blue Pens	HB Pencil
Rubber	Pencil Sharpener
Glue Stick	30cm Ruler
Highlighter	Protractor
Colouring Pencils	Whiteboard Pen

Student Planner

Brakenhale School Aim High | Be Kind | Take Responsibility

BRAKENHALE Stay Hydrated!

Bring your own re-useable bottle or try our Brakenhale Water Bottles

Available for students to purchase from LRC Book Room 8.45-9am and at Break

Bottles £2 each



BRAKENHALE Table Tennis Bats & Balls

Bats £5
Balls £0.50p

Available for students to purchase from LRC Book Room 8.45-9am and at Break



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 You have to be in it to win it!





Brakenhale School



RECYCLE
YOUR OLD CLOTHES, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES.

We collect old clothes, shoes and accessories to help raise money for the school.

Collect your unwanted items and bring them in to school in a black bin bag or other plastic sack.

We have 2 large red receptacles at the front of the school to collect them in.

Please contact Sarah Hartley at the school if you have any questions.
shartley@brakenhale.co.uk

Thank you for supporting our school!

Brakenhale School, Rectory Lane, Bracknell





Brakenhale School

RECYCLE!

Don't send your unwanted items to landfill... The more bags you bring the more money we raise for the school.

Visit www.bag2school.com for more information.

The following 'good quality' items are accepted for RE-USE:

- ✓ Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- ✓ Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- ✓ Handbags
- ✓ Hats and Bags
- ✓ Scarves and ties
- ✓ Jewellery
- ✓ Lingerie and Socks
- ✓ Belts
- ✓ Soft toys
- ✓ Household linen
- ✓ Household Curtains
- ✓ Household Towels
- ✓ Household Bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

Please note that the following are not accepted:

- ✓ Duvets and Blankets
- ✓ Pillows and cushions
- ✓ Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)
- ✓ Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing
- ✓ School uniforms with and without logo
- ✓ Corporate clothing and workwear
- ✓ Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

Put your items in a black bin bag or other plastic sack.

Thank you for supporting our school!

Term Dates for this Academic Year

Please find below our Term Dates for this academic year 2022/23, updated with the additional Coronation Bank Holiday.

Term Dates 2022-23

SPRING TERM 2023

Wednesday 4th January – Friday 31st March 2023

Spring Holiday: Monday 3rd to Monday 17th April 2023

(Good Friday 7th April, Easter Monday 10th April)

SUMMER TERM 2023

Monday 17th April Inset Day

Tuesday 18th April – Wednesday 19th July 2023

Summer Half Term - Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2023

(May Bank Holidays Monday 1st, Monday 8th [NEW] and Monday 29th May)

Thursday 20th and Friday 21st July 2023 Inset Days

Summer Holiday: Thursday 20th July 2023

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



Term Dates 2023/24

Please find below our Term Dates for next academic year 2023/24.

Term Dates 2023-24

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Friday 1st and Monday 4th September Inset Days

Tuesday 5th September – Friday 15th December 2023

Tuesday 5th – Years 7, 11, 12 and 13 only - Wednesday 6th – All Students

Autumn Half Term - Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October 2023

Christmas Holiday: Monday 18th December to Monday 1st January 2024

SPRING TERM 2024

Tuesday 2nd January Inset Day

Wednesday 3rd January – Thursday 28th March 2024

Spring Half Term - Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February 2024

Spring Holiday: Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April 2024

(Good Friday 29th March, Easter Monday 1st April)

SUMMER TERM 2024

Monday 15th April Inset Day

Tuesday 16th April – Friday 19th July 2024

Summer Half Term - Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024

(May Bank Holidays Monday 6th and Monday 27th May)

Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July 2024 Inset Days

Summer Holiday: Wednesday 24th July 2024

INSET Days Friday 1st and Monday 4th September 2023
 Tuesday 2nd January 2024
 Monday 15th April 2024
 Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July 2024

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>



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

☎ 01344 423041 ~ ✉ mainreception@brakenhale.co.uk ~ 🌐 www.brakenhale.co.uk

Part of the Greenshaw Learning Trust

High Expectations and Challenge