

Brakenhale News



Friday 26th May 2023 | Half Term 5

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

I hope this finds you well.

We have now come to the end of the first half term of this summer. It has flown by. It has been one punctuated by two Bank Holidays and a couple of strike days, but still been as busy as ever!

As always, there has been a range of great experiences in our school throughout this time. The most pivotal of these has been the starting of the formal exams for students in Year 11 and Year 13. I have been so pleased with how students have conducted themselves and attended school in the mindset that they are able and capable of doing well. As teachers, we refer to this as 'winners' culture' - every student knows they can attempt every exam and do so with confidence. After the half term break, the second half of the exams commences. It's important that students in both year groups continue to dedicate their time to focus on these. We all know that this will make a difference to their grades, and what they decide to do on results day in August.

Furthermore, after half term, Years 7, 8 and 9 have their Rank Order Assessments and Year 10 and 12 their Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) for the first time. Mr Smith outlines this further in his piece below. With this in mind, attendance matters. We know that being in school has a direct impact on how well a student does. Mrs Whitaker-Flower explains this further below.

Whilst this term has been slightly fractured with days missed, we've celebrated the King's coronation, we've had a History trip to London, the Year 8 football team got right to the semi-finals, we've had a successful careers workshop with a group of Year 10 students, our CCF has continued to go from strength to strength, Golden Tickets given out every day... and much more. The next 27 pages give you further insight into this.

As we approach the second half term of this summer, please do refer to the communication sent home this week, by Mrs Whitaker-Flower, about uniform. It has detailed information and our standards must remain high. As always, please also support us in supporting your child(ren), so that they are ready and refreshed and prepared for the new term.

Today, we say goodbye to Mrs Keljarrett who has leaves us to go and work in a special school in Yateley. Mrs Keljarrett has been with us for just under six years and started her teaching career at Brakenhale. We thank her for her dedication to our school and she will be missed by students and staff alike. We wish Ms Keljarrett all the best in her new role.

Can I wish you all a restful half term break. As a school community we are always aiming high, being kind and taking responsibility. These values permeate everything we do. These values are important in our everyday lives. Students' future careers and individual successes drive what we do, every day, underpinned by those values.

Kind regards,

Mr Taylor, Headteacher



Reflecting on the past half term, my highlight has been the excellent Year 11 and 13 students taking on their exams with gusto and fervour. They have truly impressed me with their dedication to their future selves. Their hard work will pay off, as we all know that education elevates you to excellence.

We love seeing you all every single day at school. Your attendance is the very key to your success. At school, and in later life at work, your attendance counts. Statistics show that students who do not miss a day at school go on to achieve better in their GCSEs (83.7% achieved grades 9-4, compared to 35.6% of students who were persistently absent). Therefore, on those mornings where you feel like you would rather continue to snooze in bed, or there is a test so it's better to stay at home, think again. You are not just living for today's you but for your future you too. Don't do things now that could limit your future possibilities.

Your well-being is very important to us, it impacts on your learning and extends into other areas of your life. Your tutor, the head of year team, teachers, support staff and the safeguarding team are all available for you to speak to if you feel that your wellbeing requires a little more support. School is a brilliant place to be, but can prove challenging at times and it is those times where you must speak to someone. We also have a very active student leadership team, anti-bullying ambassadors and school council, who are also available for you to talk to.

Mrs Whitaker Flower, Deputy Headteacher



“May” comes from the Latin Maius, probably referring to the goddess Maia. She embodied the concept of growth, both in nature and in business.

As with our students in Year 11 and 13, we have seen them grow and flourish throughout this year and especially within the month of May. The GCSE and A Level exams are underway. With two full exam weeks completed and another two left to go after May half term. The dedication that students in Year 11 and 13 have shown towards their exams has been exemplary. Students have been arriving on time (8:10am) to attend their “Warm Up” session before their 9am exam. They have also been attending “Booster” sessions following their afternoon exams, to prepare them for their exams the following day. The buzz and excitement students have shown when they have left the exam hall demonstrates how confident they have been at being able to answer the questions on the exam paper. The “Warm Up” and “Booster” sessions have helped to ease any worries and motivate students.

Although we have two weeks left of GCSE and A level exams, Years 7, 8 and 9 will also be completing their second Rank Order Assessment in all subjects from Monday 5th to Friday 16th June. This is an ideal time to ensure that students receive high quality feedback enabling them to make exceptional progress. They will also be able to look back at their first Rank Order Assessment, which was completed in January, to see how far they have progressed.

As the end of the academic year approaches, students in Years 10 and 12 will also have their first Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs) from Monday 26th June to Friday 7th July. The PPEs will assess students in all their subjects and identify how they, too, have grown since starting their GCSE or A level courses at the start of Year 10 or 12. It will also provide them with the opportunity to experience the completing of an exam paper under full examination regulations. They will prepare them for their GCSE and A Levels in May 2024. I strongly encourage students in Years 10 and 12 to revise in preparation for their PPEs.

Wishing you a wonderful half term.

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!

Well done to all the students - from Year 7 right the way through to Year 13 - who were chosen for Everyday Excellence this term and had lunch with Mr Taylor on Friday 5th May.



Similarly, students were selected by their Heads of Year for the second pizza lunch of the half term on Thursday 25th May to celebrate House Points and recognising the achievements of those students. We had a full house and there was a real buzz of conversation around the table.

These students all fulfil our values of Aim High, Be Kind and Take Responsibility and Mr Taylor is very proud to meet with them in this way.

Coronation Celebrations

Mrs Whitaker-Flower, Deputy Headteacher

Bunting production

On Wednesday 3rd May all students in Years 7 to 10 took part in a tutor time activity to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. They learnt about previous coronations and were given the opportunity to make a flag with a special message of congratulations. Some of these were made into bunting for our Library and Reception area. Our Year 10 Prefect team were exceptional at creating and displaying the bunting. Amazing efforts to our youngest student leaders: Caitlin I, Sidnie K, Lucas C, Aliza B, Alessandra G, Kelsie C, Chloe M, Sophie K and Abigail R.





Celebration Cupcakes

Following a busy week for our Admin team who were busy assembling presentation containers and boxing up over 1300 cupcakes, on Friday 5th May all students and staff were given one of these mementos to take home with them.

Whitechapel Trip

Ms D Bunkell, Head of History & Social Sciences

Year 10 History Trip to Whitechapel

On Wednesday 10th May, 40 Year 10 History students had the exciting opportunity to extend their learning by going to the National Archives and the Jack the Ripper Museum in London.

At the National Archives students were able to analyse some real primary evidence and handle census records from 1888. Additionally, students were shown the real Jack the Ripper 'Dear Boss' letter. This was extremely insightful for the students and many took the opportunity to get a photo of this amazing piece of history.

Furthermore, students were able to go to the Jack the Ripper Museum in London's West End, located just around the corner from where the H Division Police Station was in 1888: Leaman Street. Here students embarked on a tour of the museum or a tour of the locations where a number of murders took place. Luckily the weather was on our side and remained sunny and warm while on the walking tour. Our tour guide discussed with students who the suspects in the Ripper murders were, as well as why the police had difficulties in catching the murderer.

After visiting both locations, for one coach it was a long journey home due to central London traffic. However, spirits remained high with some impromptu karaoke on the journey! And while the trip was long the students had a really positive experience and understood much more about the conditions in Whitechapel which allowed for the Ripper murders to take place, as well as knowledge of what type of primary sources they could use in their examinations.



Combined Cadet Force

Captain Bury, Contingent Commander, Brakenhale School CCF

Brakenhale CCF, as always, has had an action packed few months: with a charity event, awards night and even some fieldcraft exercises thrown in. Here is our round up.

March 2023

Over the weekend of 25th and 26th March our outstanding cadets took on this year’s sponsored charity challenge. At Brakenhale CCF we like to set the standards high, so thought it only right to set the sponsored charity event target high too. This was for the funds target and also with the challenge itself.

The Challenge – Cadets were asked to walk a combined total distance of 800 miles, while also climbing the same height as that of the 3 highest peaks in England, Wales and Scotland. They were only given 24hrs to complete this challenge and it even made the Bracknell News front page.



We were honoured to be able to welcome Major Chris Brannigan (bare foot walking soldier). The reason we were delighted to have Chris join us, is that the charity we were raising funds for was “Hope For Hasti”. Hasti is the daughter of Chris and has an extremely rare condition called CdLs.

The whole weekend was full of fun and laughter, with cadets even following Chris’s lead and walking some of the laps barefooted.

The cadets really did push themselves to make sure that they reached the goal set. From the JustGiving page the cadets set up we were pleased to donate £4,065 to the Hope for Hasti charity.



At the end of the 24hrs, Chris presented Capt. Bury with a trophy to show that the cadets had reached their target and also as a thank you for the support the CCF had given to Chris and his family.

April 2023: Pride of Bracknell Forest Awards 2023

Brakenhale CCF were nominated for the 2023 “Team of the year” award in this year’s Pride of Bracknell Forest Awards. This on its own was just amazing! We were so grateful for the support we were being shown.

On Friday 21st April Capt. Bury was invited to attend the awards night being held at the ‘Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst’. The awards night allowed Capt. Bury to take one other guest and the CCF instructors decided that it was only right that the most senior cadet should attend, so Cadet CSM Darren Bury-Cooke was also invited.

The event was to celebrate all of the outstanding people and groups within Bracknell and to show thanks for all of the commitment they all give.

The awards night was attended by high profile dignitaries such as a former Prime Minister, MPs, The High Sheriff and the Lord Lieutenant for Berkshire.



Brakenhale CCF on the night were awarded with the SILVER award for “Team of the year” which was just outstanding.

It is really important that I also say a big thank you not only to everyone that voted for us but also to the other adult instructors. Without their support, the time they dedicate and the commitment they show to the CCF, we wouldn’t be able to offer this amazing cadet force opportunity to so many.

22nd – 23rd April

Saturday 23rd saw the cadets back out in the field and, for some, this was the first time ever.

The weekend was about the cadets learning the basics of living in the field and learning to navigate both in daylight and at night.

Cadets were also learning the art of military fire and manoeuvre. This was all part of the training weekend, so that cadets will then be skilled to carry this out on the next exercise with Army weapons and blank ammunition.



Future Events

We look forward to the final newsletter of the year in July because, between now and then, the cadets have even more adventures planned for them. These include Fieldcraft exercise where they will take their army weapon handling test, 15 cadets have a North Wales adventure for 5 days, Cadet Fieldcraft exercise part 2 (with weapons and blank ammunition) and then finally SUMMER CAMP 23.

ONE LAST THANK YOU AGAIN



I would like to say a huge THANK YOU again to the amazing team I have of adult instructors; they are mad as well.

PE and Extra Curricular Round-Up | Half Term 3

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

PE update - Summer 1

The PE department started back this half term with GCSE PE moderation at Wellington College for Year 11 who were superb. They showed off their sporting skills and physical attributes, really stepping up and impressing the moderator. A huge well done to the students who were selected to attend. Students in Year 10 studying the CNAT Sports Science course also took part in their final 2 weeks of assessments of a unit of work which saw them complete their first unit of the course. Our Year 11 BTEC and Year 13 CTEC courses are still working hard to get work finished and secure those all-important final grades which is also pleasing to see. The Year 11 students on the BTEC course did a day off timetable this half term and were successful in completing their gym sessions for their training programme unit of work which was really good to see. The Year 10 Sports Leaders have been working hard on their delivery skills and are preparing to lead their own event with the Year 7s next half term. At Key Stage 3 students have been focusing on Leading ME in the summer term, looking at working with various group sizes, at various parts of the lesson and being able to lead and coach each other in skills, drills and games. After school clubs still take place on a Wednesday and there has been a focus on rounders, cricket and athletics to prepare students for fixtures in half term 6 which will come thick and fast after the half-term week's break.

Things to look forward to next half term include

- **district athletics** for Year 7,
- **cricket, rounders and athletics** fixtures for Years 7 to 10 which will give students a great opportunity to put their skills to the test against other local schools (hopefully in some glorious summer sunshine!) - please keep an eye out for further information next half term,
- **leadership** opportunities for Year 9 and 10,
- a Brownlee **Triathlon** experience for 20 select Year 7 students at the Leisure Centre on Thursday 22nd June
- and of course the PE calendar favourite, **SPORTS DAY!** Sports day is on Friday 7th July with the reserve day being Thursday 13th July. Sports day will follow the same format as last year... more information to come!

Rounders

Brakenhale will be hosting Bracknell Forest's Rounders tournament in the upcoming Summer term. The dates are; Year 10 - 08/06, Year 9 - 13/06, Year 8 - 20/06, Year 7 - 03/07

We look forward to seeing you all involved. Please don't forget to come to Mates Participate on Wednesdays after school for practice.

Football Review....

So the football season has finally finished and all leagues and cups completed for our KS3 Footballers!

Final League positions...

- Year 7 Boys - Finished 3rd
- Year 8 Boys - Finished 2nd
- Year 9 Boys - Finished 3rd
- Girls (Y7/Y8/Y9) - Finished 3rd

Every student who pulled on the maroon strip and gave their all for the school, we are all very proud of each and every one of them and thank them for being keen and representing the school this season!

SPECIAL MENTION to Year 8 boys...

The Year 8 Boys season was extended due to a successful league and cup run which saw them qualify for the semi-final of the Berkshire Schools County Cup (for the second year running!) AND the semi-final of the East Berkshire Schools League Play Offs... So, after a nervous wait for the result of Bohunt vs Edgbarrow the opponents were confirmed as Edgbarrow which was a repeat from last year's County Cup semi-final and a chance for revenge! BUT



we were also drawn to play them in the East Berkshire Schools League Play Offs! So with pitch availability minimal due to athletics season, it was decided that there would be a 'Winner Takes All' game (2 Semi Finals in one)!

On Thursday 11th May the squad were treated to lunch and a team meeting to discuss tactics during period 5 with Mr Maye. As the boys warmed up the crowd began to grow with students in ALL year groups coming to support them along with a large number of staff and parents.

With the hostile home crowd and 12th Brakenhale man in full voice, the game kicked off with a nervous opening period from both teams before, sadly, Edgbarrow took the lead. This settled them down. Unfortunately we conceded 2 more before half time going in 3-0 down.

Not to be down, the boys and Mr Maye discussed a few things and despite going 4-0 down soon into the second period the spirit of Istanbul (Liverpool vs AC Milan 2005) started. We got one back through a Franky R free kick... 4-1 then another to make it 4-2! THEN ANOTHER to make it 4-3! However the very good referee on the day (Tobylee J from Year 11) noticed the linesman flag up (Mr Maye's!) - sadly when a VAR review was conducted there was an offside call made and goal ruled out. Had it not it would have set up an intense final 2 mins!



Result aside every one of the boys gave everything for the school and it was just a bridge too far for them. We wish Edgbarrow good luck in the Finals.

Well done to:

- Franky R 8K, Frankie E 8A, Charlie S 8H,
- George B 8A, Harry K 8N, Chase H 8B,
- Sebastian P 8B, Oskar B 8H, Olyver C 8E,
- Louie D 8N, Harry C 8H, Oliver M 8A,
- Joseph G 8H, Kai R 8N, Richard B 8N.

County Athletics

A huge well done to the following students for making it through to the county round of the Berkshire school athletics competition:

- Daniel P Year 10 800m
- Maya A Year 10 Triple Jump
- Grace S Year 9 300m

We look forward to seeing how they get on at Palmer Park in June!

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 spare 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.

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.

Sports Night and Extra-Curricular Clubs HT6



HT6

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!!!!






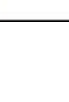
After school
305-415pm





TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY - A WHOLE NIGHT OF SPORT!!	THURSDAY
<p>FIXTURES vs other schools</p>	<p><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... 	<p>FIXTURES vs other schools</p> <p>Basketball in the sports hall with Mr Mav!</p>

PE Champions for this Half Term

#teambrokenhale #brakenhalepe		PE CHAMPIONS Summer Half Term 1 - WELL DONE!						
		Week beginning: 17/4/23		Week beginning: 24/4/23		Week beginning: 1/5/23		
Staff		Student	Tutor	Student	Tutor	Student	Tutor	
 		Jermaloe S	9E	Lewis J	11H	Lauren A	11E	
		Aaron B	7H	Kyle T	11A	Finloy C	11H	
		Max J	11R	Sienna H	7R	Kaylan G	11E	
		Sophie W	10B	Katie S	8K	Calum V	10A	
		Ruby G	11N	Jessica C	8K	Jessica L	11K	
		Ethan H	8A	Caitlyn I	10R	Emily S	10R	
		Week beginning: 8/5/23		Week beginning: 15/5/23		Week beginning: 22/5/23		
Staff		Student	Tutor	Student	Tutor	Student	Tutor	
		Mr Potter	Jamie L	11A	Ronnie C	9H	Daniel P	10R
		Mr Maye	Harry L	7E	Tobylee J	11S	Presley DM	8E
		Mr Boucher	Isabella F	7K	Jenna A	9N	Lucy K	7E
		Ms Wilson	Sophie S	9H	Erin B	7E	Amy K	7R
		Ms Montgomery	Ethan H	8A	Caitlyn I	10R	Emily S	10R
		#teambrokenhale #brakenhalepe						

Careers @ Brakenhale

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

Year 11

This term I have had the absolute privilege to continue working with the Year 11 students, making certain they have a secure and suitable Post 16 option for when they finish their GCSEs. The main pointers all Year 11 students and their parents/carers should be aware of at this stage are:

- On GCSE results day (Thursday 24th August) ensure you access your results at your earliest convenience; please note the earlier the better! Then, based on your achieved grades, select the most suitable of the Post 16 options you applied for. Contact the provider of your Post 16 first option IMMEDIATELY and secure your place. Only once you have secured your first option should you then reject any other back-up Post 16 options you had. The priority is to get your application secured before hundreds of other students call those providers later in the day. For example, a College may have 65 applications for a course with only 24 spaces - so that puts into context the severity of getting yourself confirmed on that course before others.
- Year 11 students may be using their Brakenhale email addresses for external applications - please note that during the Summer holiday students that are not joining us for Sixth Form will lose access to their Brakenhale emails. Please ensure you are letting external course providers/other organisations know your new email address so you don't lose essential communication with them.

Year 10

There is a lot of preparation going on behind the scenes into the Year 10s for the next half term. Amongst other things they will have a Careers morning where we will introduce them to their Post 16 options. That session will be insightful and informative for them.

Year 7, 8 and 9



These year groups have continued their Careers journeys using the destinations platform during Tutor time. Unifrog, the destinations platform, has been invaluable - students answer a questionnaire on their interests and then Career suggestions are provided. Students can then click on the numerous career suggestions and learn more about the salary, hours, duties of the role and what qualifications would be needed for entry level.

Careers Partners

We are delighted to confirm DHL, the logistics giant and local cornerstone employer, as one of our official Career partners. They came into School on Tuesday 23rd May, delivering a 'CV writing and interview skills' workshop to some of our Year 10 Students. This will be the first of many to come.

Here is a photo of the DHL trainer (left) with Mrs Allum, Brakenhale Careers Lead (right.)



SEN Update

Mrs J Fear, SENCo

What does 'special educational needs' mean?

Children and young people with SEN all have learning difficulties or disabilities that make it harder for them to learn than most children and young people of the same age. These children and young people may need extra or different help from that given to others. The definition of special educational needs as set out in the SEND Code is as follows:

"A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her. A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she:

- has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
- has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions.

A child under compulsory school age has special educational needs if he or she is likely to fall within the definition above when they reach compulsory school age."

If you have concerns about your child then you can do the following:

1. Contact the SEN team via the school SEND page. Complete the questionnaire to show your concerns.
2. Contact your child's tutor, Head of Year or Assistant Head of Year to raise your concerns.

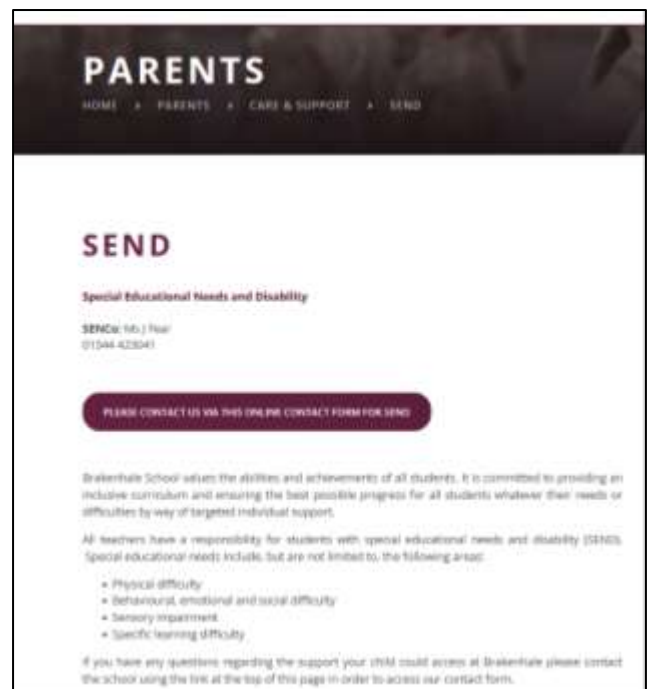
<https://brakenhale.co.uk/parents/care/send>

Every teacher is a teacher of SEN

Special Educational Needs is at the heart of our school and here is an example of how our teachers meet the needs of their students.

Mrs Lewis - Teacher of English

Despite my official title being a teacher of English, I am also a teacher of literacy and a teacher of SEN. It is important to me that all students receive the same opportunities so they can become civilised citizens of the world who contribute to it positively. This is even more important for our most vulnerable students. Building positive relationships is really important so we can learn to understand one another and work together through difficult times or topics. In order for all students to access the learning content, I provide modelling so students understand how to meet the success criteria in the lesson and scaffolding to help them build up their skills and develop their ideas. Some students have 'passports' and at Brakenhale, that means teachers can read these to know how best to support those pupils; what they find difficult and strategies to support them. Sometimes, some students require a little bit more time to acquire certain skills or knowledge and we often meet at break or lunch, sit down together and work through the gaps together. Being a teacher is awesome because I get to work with lots of different students and I get to see them grow and develop which is wonderful. Every child matters and 'sometimes real superheroes live in the hearts of small children fighting big battles'.



Meet the SEN team - Miss Butcher and Mrs Patel Robinson

MISS BUTCHER – Deputy SENCO

Approximately 13 years ago I took a job here at Brakenhale as a TA. I have had several roles in my time at the school but I now work as an English Teacher and Deputy SENCo. I have seen many changes throughout my career here and sometimes feel like part of the furniture!

I work with students throughout the school and sometimes with students even before they start their Brakenhale journey. My job is very varied and no two days are the same.

I love it when I see ex-students who stop for a chat - although it makes me feel quite old at times.

When I'm not in school I like to relax with a good book and my cat Zorro on the sofa - although I often fall asleep mid-paragraph. I also like to cook, although I'm not always great at following a recipe and I cannot bake scones at all!

Miss Deepa Patel Robinson – HLTA (Higher Level Teaching Assistant) in training

I have been a TA at Brakenhale for over 2 years and I am training to become an HLTA. My primary role is to assist the SEN students but also the rest of the class if possible. I support students across a range of subjects, whether it is Maths, English, Art or BTEC sport. I believe my job is not confined to classes only, it is essential to build a relationship of trust with students so that they feel comfortable asking me for help whether it is pastoral or academic. I work mainly with Year 11 students but I also run literacy and numeracy sessions with Year 7. In addition I support students in homework clubs every day after school except for Fridays when I run a craft club with a colleague. I love that every day is different and that each day there is a win for students, big or small, to be grateful for. Being an HLTA will give me the opportunity to adapt my teaching using creative techniques thereby engaging the SEN students even more.

What have been your highlights at Brakenhale?

When I was young, school wasn't my favourite place and I never imagined I would be working in one but here I am at Brakenhale, loving it! I personally believe school is not just about academics; it is about educating children to be responsible citizens, believing in themselves and achieving the best that they can. So when a student understands and accepts where they went wrong and apologises for it; when a student sees their test result and their face lights up; when parents have noticed a positive change in their child and they are grateful: these are all highlights that make my job so rewarding. My particular achievement of late has to be the moment when not just the students but even the parents refer to me as the "school mum". I am blessed to be working with inspirational adults and youngsters.

A work/life balance is important. Do you have any interesting hobbies?

When I am not at school, I am busy running my art and crafts business because it encompasses my passion and interest in being creative. I love running birthday parties, getting messy with children and fuelling creativity with young and old alike. At home, I love transforming old furniture, experimenting with different paint mediums and drawing mandalas. I am inspired by my mum to practise yoga, though I am not as disciplined as her. Reading is my escape, psychology and life skills books fascinate me, it's amazing how the grey matter is capable of so much. "The great events of the world take place in the brain" - Oscar Wilde.



Identity

Mrs D Lewis, English Teacher

Identity - we are looking for any outside performers/artists who would like to be part of our first Pride party on Friday 14th July. Please get in contact with dlewis@brakenhale.co.uk

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 Miss Meacock.


You can find Mrs Lewis in F10.

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




PHASE ONE SPEAKING & LISTENING

Pose




The teacher poses a question.

Pause




Pause to allow outside thinking time.

Pounce




Pounce on one student for an initial answer.

Bounce




Bounce the answer to another student who builds on the response.

Say it again, better




Offers students a chance to offer half-formed answers as they think aloud before getting them to freeze their response.



A&B



This strategy permits all students to participate in discussion with specific roles/criteria to follow, rather than only a few students participating in a class-wide discussion.



English & Literacy

Mrs D Lewis, English and Literacy

KS3 Competitions - we have one student who had submitted their entry into the Global Journalist Competition - well done and good luck!

KS3 Book Club - we are currently reading 'Surrounded by Idiots' By Thomas Erikson.

Literacy - we have a current focus on Oracy. We are using these 3 strategies in the classroom to encourage high standards of speaking and listening.

Action for Happiness

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

Meaningful May: Let's find ways to be part of something bigger

Meaningful May 2023

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1. Do something kind for someone you really care about.	2. Focus on what you can do rather than what you can't do.	3. Take a step towards an important goal, however small.	4. Send your friend a photo from a time you enjoyed together.	5. Let someone know how much they mean to you and why.	6. Look for people doing good and reasons to be cheerful.	7. Make a list of what matters most to you and why.
8. Get yourself a kindness reminder to help others today.	9. What values are important to you? Find ways to use them today.	10. Be grateful for the little things, even in difficult times.	11. Look around for things that bring you a sense of awe and wonder.	12. Listen to a favourite piece of music and remember what it means to you.	13. Find out about the values or traditions of another culture.	14. Get outside and notice the beauty in nature.
15. Do something to contribute to your local community.	16. Show your gratitude to people who are helping to make things better.	17. Find a way to make what you do today meaningful.	18. Send a hand-written note to someone you care about.	19. Reflect on what makes you feel valued and purposeful.	20. Share photos of 3 things you find meaningful or memorable.	21. Look up at the sky. Remember we are all part of something bigger.
22. Find a way to help a project or charity you care about.	23. Recall three things you're proud that you are proud of.	24. Make choices that have a positive impact for others today.	25. Ask someone else what matters most to them and why.	26. Remember an event in your life that was really meaningful.	27. Focus on how your actions make a difference for others.	28. Do something special and revisit it in your memory tonight.
29. Today do something to care for the natural world.	30. Share a quote you find inspiring to give others a boost.	31. Find three reasons to be hopeful about the future.				

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS Happier · Kinder · Together

South Central Ambulance
Service
Vs
The Fire Service
Charity Football Game



27th August 2023
Kick off @1300pm
@The SB Stadium, 2 Old Forge End,
Sandhurst, GU47 9DY

11 vs 11 roll on, roll off subs
11 players, 6 subs

Spectators £2 per person
(Under 5's not applicable)
Any further donations are more than
welcome

Food and drink will be served at the
stadium from the fan zone and the
bar will be open to chat and mingle
after full-time.

Parking is at the Sandhurst Memorial
Car park

Great day for a fantastic charity
Good family day out and great football
game to watch!



Any further questions or queries please contact myself on
cazbowrichards7@gmail.com



Cancer Research is the chosen charity for this event
Giving page details - <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/callums-giving-page-363>
Donations will also be collected on the day at the entrance as stated above. Any further
donations are more than welcome and I cannot thank you enough for your support

Dear Year 7 Parents/Carers and Students

A really big well done for our most successful half term to date!

This term has been full of achievements and individual successes. We experienced a vital part in our country's history with the King's Coronation and we celebrated this in school. It was lovely to see you getting involved with the activities and celebrating our new King. We had our first Progress Evening and what a success it was. It was great to meet some of your parents/carers and to hear such lovely comments from your teachers. A vast majority of you are going above and beyond each day and exceeding our expectations. 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.

Next term is the last term of Year 7; let's make it the best one yet. Please be reminded that your ROAs begin on Monday 5th June so please ensure you take the time to prepare, which will enable you to showcase the best of your ability. I know each and every one of you will try your hardest. Some of you might be worried but please remember you have several members of staff to talk to including your tutor, class teachers and the year team.



I would like to congratulate each and every one of you for your achievements this term, especially those who were invited to our 'Breakfast morning' and 'Pizza with the Headteacher'. It is wonderful to be recognised for all your hard work and a very big well done to you all.

We also have achieved the highest number of **achievement points** every week since the start of September. Currently we have a grand total of **55,916** achievement points thanks to your hard work! This is much higher than the other year groups in the school. This is a remarkable accomplishment and one that we need to continue. Last term we saw 7R win the highest amount of achievement points and the current scores are below:

7B	7R	7A	7K	7E	7N	7H
7451	9626	7082	8643	5767	8824	8523



As you can see 7R are STILL our reigning champions. However 7H are not too far behind. A big well done to 7R! Let's see if we can have a new champion next half term. Please remember everything you do counts and goes towards your overall total.

It really is a pleasure to celebrate each and every Golden Ticket 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 from this half term.

Isobel D	7H	50
Chantelle W	7A	50
Sienna H	7R	45
Summer D	7B	35
Emma G	7E	35



Final Message

Please take the half term week holiday as a time to rest and spend time doing things you enjoy as well as spending time with friends and family. 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 half term. Best wishes,

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

Dear Year 8 Parents/Carers and Students

This half term has been dominated by short weeks for various reasons, but as a nation we celebrated the coronation of King Charles III. However, the shortened time in school has not curtailed our resolve as a year group to succeed and excel, and we have much to celebrate this half term.



Photo by Isaac Mayne /DCMS – contains public sector information licensed under the [Open Government Licence v3.0](#)

With the Year 11 Exams in full swing, please be reminded that our behaviour around the school must not have a negative impact on those sitting exams. Be mindful of that as you make your way around the Main Hall, Sports Hall and the Main building, as some rooms are being used as break out rooms for the exam period. It won't be long before you are the ones sitting in these venues for your exams.

With the improved weather, we must be mindful that we are hydrated. Please bring water into school and keep your water bottles to be refilled. Please use sun factor protection before coming into school so you are safe when you are out in the sun. It's important we look after ourselves.

We are incredibly proud of the extra-curricular work some of you have taken part in. Students in the CCF continue to go above and beyond in representing the school at various events and generating much needed funds for various charities.




Our Year 8 Boys football team did us proud when they represented us all the way to the semi-finals. They gave EVERYTHING, they were amazing; never stopped or gave up showing all the qualities we as a school look for and push our students to be! We are proud of how well you did and celebrate with you!

The biggest winners of achievement points this term are: **Darcy B, Karl C, Elliott F, Jasmine H and Tineale H.**

Amazing work everyone, a massive well done to you!

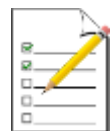
The biggest winner of house points this term are: **Tommy, Chase, Harry C, Ryan T and Tineale!** Amazing job - and keep up the hard work!

The leadership board hasn't changed much but it is very tight between each group! Keep pushing yourself to win house points and golden tickets as every little helps!

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th
	8E	8A	8N	8H	8R	8B	8K

We continue to have an extra push on attendance this half term. Your tutors will be supporting this. Keep an ear out for how this is to be done over the last half term of the academic year. 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.

Attendance leaderboard	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th
	8N	8A	8K	8R	8H	8B	8E
	92.7%	91.7%	91.6%	91.5%	88.4%	86.8%	85.9%



Have a safe and restful half term break. Please try to do one act of kindness per day. Stay safe, and see you when we get back in June.

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

Dear Year 9 Parents/Carers and Students

As I look ahead to the upcoming last half term of Year 9, there are many things I am looking forward to for us as a year group. Firstly, I am certainly looking forward to the summer evenings that lie ahead (maybe not the 30 degree weather whilst in business attire in school though). I look forward to celebrating the end of a successful year in our Celebration assembly at the end of the year. Finally, I am looking forward to seeing Year 9 successfully transition into Year 10 and proceed with their chosen subjects at GCSE. We have so much to look forward to and the future is looking bright.

This is a bittersweet edition of Year 9 News as it will sadly be my last as Head of Year as I move on to my new role in the school. Mr Collins has been appointed the new Head of Year and will take up post at the beginning of next half term. As sad as it is for me to leave this role which I have thoroughly enjoyed now for three years, I am thrilled that Mr Collins will be succeeding me and I have every confidence that Mr Collins will do an excellent job. He already has great relationships with our Year 9 students and thus I have no doubts that this will be a seamless transition. Over the next half term, I will work with Mr Collins in a supporting capacity. A new Assistant Head of Year will be appointed in due course and the new year team will be in place for September. Mr Collins has the following to share;

"I am honoured and privileged to be stepping into the Head of Year role following the work Mr McKane has done with Year 9. I am very much looking forward to supporting the year group through their GCSE years and doing everything possible to help them succeed and prepare for their future."

Here is of one of our first assemblies together in September 2020!
You all looked so fresh faced.

I want to wish all our families a restful half term break, hopefully with some enjoyable weather. It has been a pleasure to be Head of Year for such a wonderful year group. I look forward to continuing working with all our parents, albeit in a different capacity going forward. All communications should continue to be sent to Pastoral@brakenhale.co.uk.

Take care,

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



Dear Year 10 Parents/Carers and Students

Year 10 has had a fantastic half term following the Easter break! There have been many opportunities for students to get involved with learning outside the classroom. We have had a drama trip, a history trip (admittedly some may have had a longer trip home than others!) and a couple of CCF field expeditions. It is great to see so many of the Year 10 cadets stepping up into more leadership positions and taking on the extra responsibilities.

All of the excellent hard work has meant that we have earned a lot of house points in the past six weeks. It is a common theme in Year 10 that the students take responsibility for their actions and conduct themselves appropriately around school. Our students wear their uniform with pride and really lead by example for the younger year groups to follow. I am incredibly proud of how these young people have grown in the past year and how everyone is beginning to prepare themselves for the reality of our GCSE exams in only a year's time. The continuous hard work really does pay off and you can see from the number of house points totted up by each group just how hard they are working.

Achievement Points

Group	Achievement Points
10B	486
10E	461
10A	454
10N	435
10R and 10H	430
10K	416



Overall this half term, Year 10 attendance has been fantastic. We have hit the top of the inter-year leaderboard on multiple occasions! Our half term leaderboard is as follows:

Tutor Group	Attendance
10K	94.6%
10A	92.8%
10H	92.2%
10R	92.1%
10B	90.4%
10E	88.6%
10N	88.2%



Attendance is the key to success in school; having access to expert teachers in disruption free environments will ensure we are all ready and focussed for those exams in a year's time.

To help prepare our students for exams, the first of three sets of Pre-Public Examinations ('PPEs') will take place from Monday 26th June as a recent letter has explained. This will be their first time in an exam hall, working under exam conditions and experiencing the (appropriate) pressure at this critical time. This experience will be a beneficial learning experience and I am confident it will be handled in the professional and responsible manner that it should be.

Now please enjoy a week off (hopefully in the sun) to come back rested and ready for our final half term as year 10.

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

Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers and Students

Here we are at the end of an era, our last Year 11 news and it is crazy to think I have been writing these to you now for five years! I am so proud of each and every one of you for the resilience and determination you have shown to get to this point in your academic journey. It is genuinely mind-boggling how quickly the last five years have gone and during this time you've had to face some trials and tribulations, and every time, you have conquered them. Everything you have practised for over the last two years, and all the PPEs you have sat, have prepared you for this moment. Now is the time for you to shine and achieve your own individual successes.

You have completed two weeks of exams already and that means we are almost half way through them and I have to compliment you on how you have conducted yourselves before, during and after your exams. Your behaviour during PPEs was exemplary and you have raised the bar even higher over the last two weeks. Mrs Seymour cannot believe how seamlessly your transition from being outside to being in exam conditions and is constantly telling me you are one of the best year groups she has helped and supported through exams. Let's keep this reputation going through the remaining few weeks we have after May half term. The school as a whole is so impressed with how you have faced your exams head on and it fills me with pride every time I hear a compliment about you.

Now it is time to think about your futures and your next step. These exams will open all of the doors you need and you are well aware of what you need to achieve to reach these next destinations. I know many of you have had your meeting with Mrs Allum and you have picked your next destinations and are clear about what the future could hold for you. This is such an exciting time for you and I hope you have everything in place to ensure you get the placement you wish for studying the course you want. This is now all in your hands, so go and realise those dreams.

I would just like to highlight the support you have been given in the run up to your exams and this will continue after half term as well. The booster sessions have been a great success to recap previous topics and to ensure you have extra direct face to face time with your teacher the evening before an exam. These sessions also give you something to focus on when you get home as a bit of refresher as well. The warm up sessions are to ensure you are prepared for your exam and to get you in a calm, positive mindset where you leave knowing you will be successful. You can do this and we believe in every single one of you; only two and half weeks left.

Please do take advantage of the teachers that are able to give up part of their half term to put on some last minute revision sessions. These could be the difference that means you get that higher grade, or secure the grade you are aiming for. Your teachers are giving up some of their own holiday time because they believe in you and want the absolute best for you. If you are turning up to these sessions, please engage fully and take on board all of the advice of your teachers.

We also have a number of things to look forward to in order to celebrate your time here at Brakenhale. The Prom is fast approaching and I know so many of you have purchased your dresses and suits and the vast majority of you have achieved the required number of Prom Points. There is still time. Use the May half term revision sessions to gain those last few points - I am sure you will all look fantastic and I am looking forward to celebrating this evening with you! There is also the final day of school, the leavers' assembly and leavers hoodies. Lots to still look forward to for all the hard work you have done over the last five years. Let's smash the last few weeks together and end the journey on a high.

Have a restful half term.

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



Dear Sixth Form Parents/Carers and Students

This term appears to have flown by and it is hard to believe that we are now in the midst of exam season and near the end of the academic year. We are immensely proud of the progress both year groups have made. The first half of the summer term is always a challenge. Although the weather is warmer, the expectations are high and students often feel stressed in preparation for exam season. That being said, Sixth Formers have absolutely hit the ground running and done a tremendous job. In the past 2 weeks, we have been so impressed with how good humoured and focused you have been. All your hard work will pay off - we promise! You have shown such determination, persistence, and hard work over the past 2 weeks, let this continue until the end of the exam season.

On the topic of hard work, we are sad to say goodbye to our Year 13 Leadership team; they have been exceptional and a real privilege to work with - we know that the skills they have demonstrated as part of the team will ensure they are incredibly successful in their chosen fields. On behalf of the school: thank you and well done.



That said, we are pleased to announce that the new Sixth Form Leadership Team is starting to be assembled. We have had a number of applicants, and are pleased that the calibre was so high. Your applications have shown you to be reflective and keen to take initiative and we look forward to working with you. Leadership opportunities like this are not only a way to give back to the school, but help students to develop key skills which employers and universities value. We always reiterate the same message: **Aim High, Be Kind, Take Responsibility**. Well done to all the Year 12 students who have fully embraced this motto. We are looking forward to seeing what exciting projects the team will be able to implement in the future.

Year 12 – Looking Ahead

As you begin thinking about your future in education, it is important to consider how your actions and choices - now more than ever - have wider implications for your future. How you respond to the opportunities that are presented before you are key in shaping your future. The small decisions made on a daily basis, such as engaging in extra revision or deciding to attend an online workshop, can help to open doors in the future.

At this point, the UCAS process has slowly begun. Students have had the opportunity to explore which pathways they may choose to take on, and the requirements needed to make these dreams a reality. While this may seem overwhelming or daunting, it is also an exciting time where you have the opportunity to take charge of how your academic future will unfold. As always, we will be here to support you every step of the way.

Year 12 PPEs will be happening the week beginning Monday 26th June for a period of two weeks. We want to reiterate the importance of taking these exams seriously. Not only do they mirror the exam experience which you will undergo in Year 13, but your results will help to paint a picture of how much you have progressed throughout the year and help inform your UCAS predictions. Your performance on these exams will also inform your teachers on how they can better support you in lessons.

Please see the timetable below:

Week B	Monday 26 June	Tuesday 27th June	Wednesday 28th June	Thursday 29th June	Friday 30th June
Period 1 and 2	History Paper 1 (1 Hr 30)	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS
Period 3 and 4	Psychology Paper 1 (2 Hrs) Further Maths Paper 1 (1 Hr 40) Chemistry (1 Hr 30)	Computer Science (1 Hr 30) French (1 Hr 45) Geography Paper 1 (1 Hr 30)	RS Paper 1 Ethics (2 Hrs) Business (2 Hrs) Physics Paper 1 (1 Hr 30)	English (2 Hrs) Pure Maths (2 Hrs) Biology (2 Hr 15)	History Paper 2 (1 Hr 30) Psychology Paper 2 (2 Hrs) Further Maths Paper 2 (1 Hr 40) Chemistry (1 Hr 30)
Period 5	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS
Week A	Monday 3rd July	Tuesday 4th July	Wednesday 5th July	Thursday 6th July	Friday 7th July
Period 1 and 2	Maths Stats / Mechanics (1 Hr 15)	RS Paper 2 Christianity (1 Hr) Physics Paper 2 (1 Hr 30)	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS
Period 3 and 4	NORMAL LESSONS	Geography Paper 2 (1 Hr 30)	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS
Period 5	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS	NORMAL LESSONS

Year 13 - Saying Goodbye!

Year 13, you are now approaching the end of your Brakenhale journey. It must be said that rarely do a year group get spoken about so positively by their teachers. There is a huge amount of fondness for you and a clear recognition of all that you have navigated over the last few years.



On Friday we had the opportunity to reflect on and celebrate your achievements at the leavers’ breakfast. Leaving Brakenhale is likely to be an emotional one, as many of you have spent the last seven years of your academic journey at this school. Your official send-off will be happening at Prom, which is taking place on Wednesday 28th June at 7:00pm at St Anne’s Manor. We can’t wait to see everyone in their finery and ready to celebrate in a more glamorous fashion.

Boosters and Exams Reminders

If you still have exams in a subject you should be attending lessons as normal where they do not clash with boosters and exams.

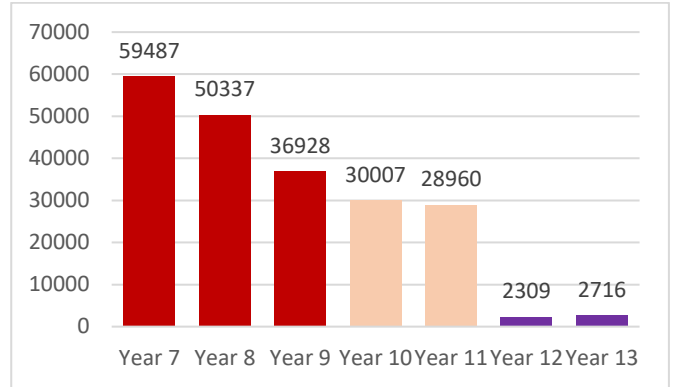
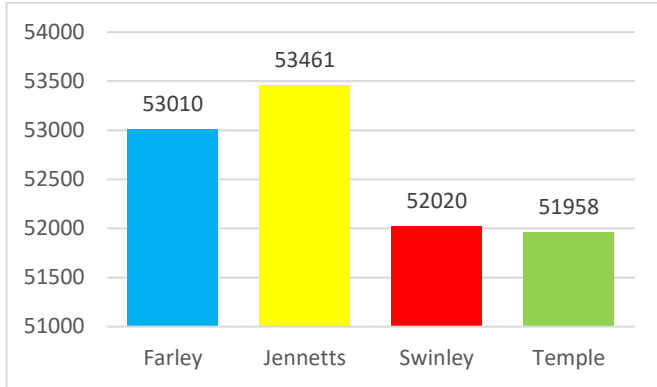
BTEC students should still be attending lessons to complete course work - you can only stop attending once your teacher has communicated to us that all of your work is completed to the required standard.

Have a lovely half term and we look forward to welcoming Year 13 back for their final exams and Year 12 back for the final six weeks of this academic term.

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		CANTEN PRICE LIST	
		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 Pit		£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 Pit		£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 2023



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.

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

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




SOS

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

Thank you.

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

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.

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


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 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

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High Expectations and Challenge