



Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 | End of Year Round-Up

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

I hope this finds you well. I write this as we approach the end of this academic year! Clichéd as this may sound, time seems to have flown. It appears that it was only weeks ago that I was relaying to Year 11 and Year 13 students, for example, that this year is significant given the formal exams; they have done these and departed for their early summer! There is an array of examples which I can give which seems to suggest that time has passed us by, so quickly.

Throughout the year, I have communicated to you either via our half-termly Parent News or a letter that had been emailed to you with the developments and updates within our school. This has been coupled with communication from various teachers and / or departments and, increasingly over the year, our posts on social media. I hope you have found these useful and have kept you informed. Thank you to those of you who have contacted us and / or visited us. I have always said that we are open to you, or any other visitors, to take a tour in action - see our school 'live' on any given day. For those of you who have done this, I hope it's been useful. On our website, we have the school video which was compiled at the beginning of the year. Do look back at it (<https://www.youtube.com/watch>) and, I am sure, you will watch it with a smile as I do every single time I re-watch it.

Very recently, I was asked about my 'proudest moment' of this academic year. After much thought, I genuinely found it hard to identify any one particular point. There have been many. To give some examples: seeing our Year 11 and Year 13 students sit and complete exams in an exemplary manner and with grit and determination; watching our Matilda show and being in awe of individual and collective performances; being at the Pride of Bracknell Awards seeing our CCF on stage to recognise their community spirit and dedication to our cadets; being at the gate each day greeting our students and, at the end of the day, seeing them showcase their Golden Tickets; watching our Year 8 footballers in the semi-final and their determination to crawl back on the scoresheet; our Diversity Drop Down Day last Friday with students engaging in discussion and debate on topics that are at the heart of their development of the whole child; simply walking the school and popping into lessons to experience the learning of all students in all year groups; the Awards assemblies last week and individuals being recognised for their progress and effort in all subjects; knowing some of our students compete at an international level in various sports and disciplines and charting their journey; the Open Evening last September where we had a long queue of families eagerly waiting to see us; the announced Ofsted visit in September and the subsequent report which was as a real representation of our school - the list can go on. What this shows is that each and every day, there is something to be proud of. Long may this continue.

As we come to the end of the year, there are some teachers who are leaving and moving on either to another school or taking a career change. Some are departing to join another school either closer to their home or in a different setting. Others are relocating to another part of England or going abroad to teach. Some are leaving the profession to do something different. Can I thank each of them for their dedication to our school as they embark on their next venture: Ms Whybra (Head of Maths), Ms Hodgson (Head of English), Mr Potter (Head of PE), Ms Fear (SENCO); Miss Whitehead (Head of Geography); Ms Reggler (Raising Standards Lead: Maths), Ms MacDonald (Acting KS3 Lead: Maths); Ms Gooding (English); Ms Shearman (English); Mr Guindani (Maths Intervention); Ms Picton and Ms Marshall (both technicians in the Creative Arts department).



Please do read everything in this bumper edition which includes some great photographs! Please ensure all of our students, and families, take a rest and re-energise for the next academic year. Continue to keep safe and let's be thoughtful and mindful of each other. 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, beyond our school gates. Students' future careers and individual successes drive what we do underpinned by those values.

Have a lovely summer break and I will see everyone back in September.

Kind regards,

*Mr Taylor, Headteacher*

Welcome to the summer holidays! Another year past, another year older and another year of failures that we have learnt from. With every experience we come across, we learn. We learn good things and sometimes bad, but mainly we learn and develop in good ways. We hope that all our students have learnt, not just curriculum content, but also to be even better individuals this year.

Our Drop Down Days are a key part of this learning experience, they provide learning opportunities for our students which are outside of the standard curriculum. They are essential to making them well rounded individuals who understand modern Britain. Our final Drop Down Day was Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July, with a focus on Diversity. It was a true triumph! The students experienced lessons on disability, race and sexual orientation (three of the nine protected characteristics), we then had a talent showcase and then a diversity fete which raised money for charity. The students had an amazing time at the fete; face painting, tin can alley and splat the teacher, to name a few of the events! It was a fabulous atmosphere which we will replicate again next year.



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Over the holidays it is essential that a break from all work occurs so that we are fresh for the new school year. However, we must remember to keep safe and always be kind. Without school, social media for some students will become a lifeline to their friends. This is natural, but comes with some concerns. Students: please try to be present with the family and friends who are with you, rather than those in your phone. Parents/Carers: please be even more vigilant at checking your child's mobile phones and their social media. We want everyone to be kind to one another and to remember that social media is a part of modern life, but does not need to be the backbone of all social communication.

Wishing you all a well-deserved break!

*Mrs Whitaker Flower, Deputy Headteacher*

As another fantastic, productive and extremely busy academic year comes to a close, our students and staff can enjoy a very well-earned break. I commend the effort made throughout the year by both our wonderful students and teachers.

My first year at Brakenhale School has been a rollercoaster of events and emotions but I have relished and enjoyed every moment. From my first term; being nervous and getting to know the unknown, to quickly learning student and staff names, the routines at the school and developing strong relationships with many parents through school events, parents' evenings and meetings. As I move into my second year at Brakenhale, myself and other members of the Leadership team have reflected and planned to develop the curriculum further.

In the February newsletter I mentioned that our Year 11 and 13 students will reap their fruits in August, when they collect their exam grades. I look forward to celebrating their success when they collect their results, especially those who I have had the privilege of teaching this academic year.

The last term has been a busy one; Years 7, 8 and 9 completed their second Rank Order Assessment (ROA) and Years 10 and 12 completed their first Pre Public Exams (PPEs). I would like to congratulate our students on their outstanding behaviour and commitment to their assessments.

In addition, there has been a variety of calendared events including; environment day, world music day, CCF FieldCraft exercises, district athletics, Jamie's Farm residential, the Year 11 and 13 leavers' assemblies and prom, Sixth Form transition day, Year 6 induction days, Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Assessed Exhibition, CCF Summer Camp, Sports Day, the Performing Arts Summer Showcase and the final Drop Down Day which focused on Diversity! I continue to be amazed by the talent and enthusiasm shown by our students throughout each of these events!

I would like to say a big thank you to all our incredible staff who have worked tirelessly and diligently throughout the year to provide outstanding education provision to all of our students. Thank you to all of our students for committing to improving and striving for excellence in your studies.

I am delighted to report that the vast majority of our teachers are returning for the next academic year which ensures great stability but there are some who move on to new opportunities. I wish all our leavers every success in the future and sincerely thank them for their contribution to our school and students.

Finally thank you to our parents who've been so supportive, compassionate and genuine educational partners to improve Brakenhale School this year. I look forward to welcoming all students both new and old back to the Brakenhale School in September. Have a restful and happy Summer break

Wishing you and your family a wonderful Summer holiday,

*Mr Smith, Deputy Headteacher*



## Rewarding Students

*Mr 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 gaining Golden Tickets this term and had lunch with Mr Taylor on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Superb effort gaining all those Golden Tickets.



Similarly, students were selected by their Heads of Year for the second pizza lunch of the half term on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July to celebrate 'Most Improved ROA Results' and recognising the achievements of those students. We practically 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.

## Jamie's Farm Trip – 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> June

*Miss Scott, English Teacher*

We had a very sunny, laughter-filled week at Jamie's Farm with a group of twelve Year 7 students who went from strength to strength during their stay. We saw real growth in these young students over the week where they approached various tasks with positivity and enthusiasm. They cooked amazing food with fresh produce collected from the garden, baked tasty treats such as lemon drizzle cake and chocolate brownies, as well as log chopping, painting, gardening, and farming.

There was a real sense of fun on the farm and the group really bonded, opening up, being kind, supportive, and encouraging with each other. We are beyond proud of how they approached lots of new experiences and managed themselves throughout their stay. We're excited to see them apply this experience back at school and with their future endeavours, as well as continue to support each other as kindly as on the farm.





## Diversity Drop Down Day 3

*Mrs Lister, Assistant Headteacher*

Diversity Drop Down Day was the third drop down day of the year and it was a resounding success!

Students started the day in their tutor bases by writing messages on the theme of diversity on coloured pieces of paper. Each tutor group in each year was assigned a different colour of paper, so that all B tutor groups had red, all R tutor groups had orange, A had yellow and so on. The messages were stuck to long rolls of paper and would later form our Rainbow of Diversity in line-up.

Period one saw the entire school learn about Disability. Students learnt about disabilities such as neuro-diversity, hidden or unseen disabilities and we learnt how many in our society face discrimination every day. We reflected on the importance of mitigating this discrimination in our diverse school community by being open minded and understanding about challenges faced by those around us.

We had some uncomfortable truths during period two with an incredibly informative lesson all about Race where we were all challenged to see our unconscious bias in action. This was an amazingly illuminating lesson for us all as we understood that we must continue to fight against the discrimination faced by so many, just because of their heritage or the colour of their skin.

During period three the whole school logged into a live feed session from a charity called Just Like Us. We heard stories and experiences from two young people from the LGBTQ+ community who shared their perspectives. The question and answer part of the session at the end was engaging and students from all classes grabbed the opportunity to ask pertinent questions and learn more about this demographic of our society.

Before lunch, we had a short session in tutor groups entitled 'through my eyes', where we used the visual of a pair of glasses to reflect on how our perspectives can change on those around us.

The grand finale came after lunch, when the entire school gathered together in the sports hall for a stunning performance from a wide array of the school students. The audience were vociferous in their support of every single act and their applause said it all! The students who performed must be congratulated on their courage to stand up in front of so many hundreds of people and every act was an inspiration in its own way. Well done! It was a real showcase of the amazing talents that we have in our school and we hope to have these types of events much more regularly due to its resounding success.

Once the applause had died down, we left the hall to set up the Diversity Fete, in which every tutor group took ownership of their own fete stall to raise money for charity. Stalls ranged from 'splat the teacher', to face painting, to guess the number of sweets in a jar, or guess the staff members' baby photos, with so much creativity and ingenuity from our students. The entire school had free reign to visit all the stalls across the school and donated 10p per go for each activity. We are proud to announce that we raised £220.44 and that the proceeds will go to the charity of choice for the winning profits stall - Miss Sherman's Year 9 tutor group - who have chosen the British Heart Foundation.

Massive well done on such a positive community event. We really hope that this will be the first of many!



## Year 7 Trip to Weald and Downland Museum

*Miss Campbell-Watson, Assistant Head Year 7*

Our Year 7 students had an exciting trip to the Weald and Downland Museum on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July.

Located near Chichester, the museum welcomes visitors to be part of something historic and discover Sussex rural history through the seasons, in the heart of the picturesque South Downs. Our students were able to see what rural living was like with over 1,000 years of history to explore, and over 50 relocated historic houses covering the 40 acre site.



## Sky News

*Mrs Whitaker-Flower, Deputy Headteacher / Ms Ioannidis, PSHE Lead*

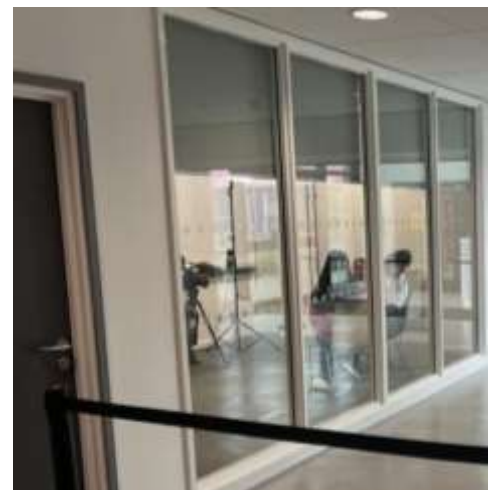
Refugee Week is a UK-wide programme of arts, cultural and educational events and activities that celebrates the contribution of refugees to the UK and promotes better understanding of why people seek sanctuary.

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July Brakenhale students participated in The Great Big Assembly as part of Refugee Week where they watched a live broadcast from a refugee camp in Jordan and heard first hand experiences of what it is like to live as a refugee fleeing war and conflict. In conjunction eight of our wonderful Year 7 and 8 students were interviewed by Scarlett Archer from FYI SkyKids, who presented the Great Big Live Assembly show that morning.

The students really did Brakenhale proud, their answers were insightful and they impressed the producer and Scarlett with their commentary and responses.

Well done to David S, Daniel K, Mia B, Grace N, Isabella A, Lewis A, Elisa H and Kacie H. You can watch the episode here (our section starts at about 2 minutes in):

<https://schools.firstnews.co.uk/fn-education-tv/fyi/fyi-episode-223/>





## Premier League Inspires Programme

*Mr Bissitt, IT Teacher, Travel and Tourism and PSHE teacher*

Some of our students were lucky enough to take part in the Premier League Inspires programme connected to Reading FC. On Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June the four students were invited to take part in an awards program due to the fact that they had won the first part of the competition.

As part of the day down at Southampton FC, the students were invited to take part in team building activities and a stadium tour around the trophy room, changing rooms and pitch side where the players and manager would sit, this was then followed with pictures taken with the actual Premier league trophy.

At the end of the day our students were asked to vote on their favourite promo video, which would be shown at the first game of Reading FC's first home game of the season and to the new Premier league inspires groups, they were then given free goodies from the Premier league to take home.



## Creative Arts

*Ms Wilhelmy, Head of Creative Arts*

Last week our Year 12 Photography students were taking interesting and beautiful shots using Miss Wilhelmy's bubble machine! I'm sure you will agree that they make captivating images.



## Combined Cadet Force

*Captain Bury, Contingent Commander, Brakenhale School CCF*

Brakenhale CCF have again just been none stop with training and most of all the much-anticipated Summer Camp 2023.

### Summer Camp 2023

On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023 47 cadets and staff entered into what we thought was going to be a good week of fun and games for our summer camp, which had the cadets and staff returning on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July. How wrong were we, as it was not only a good week but the **most amazing week** we have ever had within the CCF.

The cadets spent 7 days at Tangier Wood in Royal Tunbridge Wells, living in tents and completely off grid. Toilets were deep holes with specially built toilets and cubicles and the showers were made from watering cans. Water was brought in every day and no, there was nowhere for cadets to charge phones or play computer.

**Day one:** On arrival at Tangier Wood the cadets had to set up the camp for the week, this was them putting up their own 14ft by 14ft tents and then setting up the areas for such things as food and washing etc. Cadets then had a full talk about the week ahead and all the safety aspects needed for them to live out in the woodlands for the week. This is the cadets' accommodation for the week.



**Day Two:** – Well what can we say about day two apart from this was something so very different. The cadets on had a number of different activities happening but the biggest part of the day was the 'Game Prep'. This allowed the cadets (if they wanted) to learn about deer and then they took part in skinning and cutting up the deer, before then cutting up the meat and cooking this for their evening meal.

This was just something that we hoped the cadets would enjoy and learn so many new skills from and we were not disappointed. Pictures below show the cadets carrying out from start to finish Game Prep:



While some cadets were doing the Game Prep other cadets were out learning how to make fires from different natural resources and also how to source water and then treat it using the ground around us. Cadets also got shown how to make Gill Nets, yet more skills for life!



**Days Three and Four:** Over the Tuesday and Wednesday the cadets were split into 2 groups.

Group 1 spent Tuesday down at Hastings on an off-camp trip and group 2 stayed at Tangier Wood for different activities.





On the Wednesday the groups then switched over.



**Day Five:** On Thursday the cadets were taught about cover operation and how to gain intel without standing out from normal members of the public. The cadets practised things such as cover stories and how to take down information without standing out. The cadets then moved out to the local village where they set up their intel teams around the village and waited for the local weapons' dealers to arrive (were our volunteers, not real ones!). Once they had carried out their mission and intercepted the weapons it was back to Tangier Wood for Tea and medals.

The evening then had the cadets back up and playing games, this time it was all about axe throwing and just having fun.



**Day Six:** Well this was the day all the cadets and staff had been waiting for - the very first 'Brakenhale CCF Mess Dinner and Awards Night'.

The Mess Dinner and awards night had been an idea I had been thinking about and when I spoke to Jordan and Jodie, the owners of Tangier Wood, about it they also loved the idea and said they would make it happen. Well, what I thought it would look like was again so far away from what they delivered for the cadets and the staff, it blew me away. This night was just amazing and I am sure that if you ask any cadet, even in years to come, about this summer camp they will talk about the Mess Dinner night.

The following pictures are just a few of so many we took but I hope you can see just what a great evening the cadets had.





The night was not just about the meal but also about recognizing the hard work the cadets had put in over the last year. We were so pleased to be able to give out a number of awards and also promotions, please see the list of our award winners below.

**Awards Winners**

- Cadets cadet 2023    Cadet Morton
- Most Improved cadet 2023                                      Cadet Mckendrick
- Values and Standards award 2023                          Cadet CSM Bury-Cooke
- Outstanding Achievement Award 2023                      Cadet Cpl Hutchings
- Best Fieldcraft Award 2023                                    Cadet West
- Contingent Commanders Award 2023                        Cadet Morton



**Promotions**

- Cadet to Cadet L/Cpl Bartaby, Grady, McKendrick, Kingsnorth, Morton, Strong (M)
- Cadet L/Cpl to Cadet Cpl Plamadeala, Taylor (s), Weeks
- Cadet L/Cpl to Acting Cadet Sgt Chitty

**Special Cadet Appointment**

Cadet CSM Darren Bury-Cooke was appointed for 2023 – 2024 by the Lord-Lieutenant of Berkshire to become his CCF appointed Lord-Lieutenant Cadet. This is the highest appoint that a cadet can receive and there are only 4 cadets appointed to this role each year.



**Day Seven:** This was our close down of camp morning and then the trip back to Brakenhale to get home and hit the pillow after what had been the most amazing week ever not just for the cadets but also for the staff.

**FINAL WORDS FOR 2023 ACIDEMIC YEAR –** This year has been a year of so many changes within the training programme and also within the team of instructors. The cadets have grown not only as a team but also as individuals, which is what we aim to help them do.

The year has had so many highs that it is almost impossible to be able to say what was the very best part of this last year, but, two things standout to me. First are our amazing cadets, they truly are the best group of cadets anyone could ever wish to work with. They are a credit to their parents/Carers and to the school and trust. The cadets have shown

determination and commitment above anything anyone one of could have ever imagined. Second is my team of outstanding adult volunteers. Some people may not know but the adults that support me in the running of the CCF are all volunteers and not employed by the school or trust. They give up time with their own families to be with our cadets and give up so much more time to attend the training that they are required to complete. The adults are what also make the CCF and I would welcome each and every one of you when you next see them to applaud them for what they do for our young people, they are changing lives for the better and they do this all with little thanks.

I would like to thank all my cadets and adults for everything over this last year and lets all tighter make the 23/24 academic year even bigger and better.



## Design Technology

Mrs J Fear, DT Teacher/SENCo

Cartography is the art of creating with maps. Our Year 8 learners have been making celebratory cards using maps.





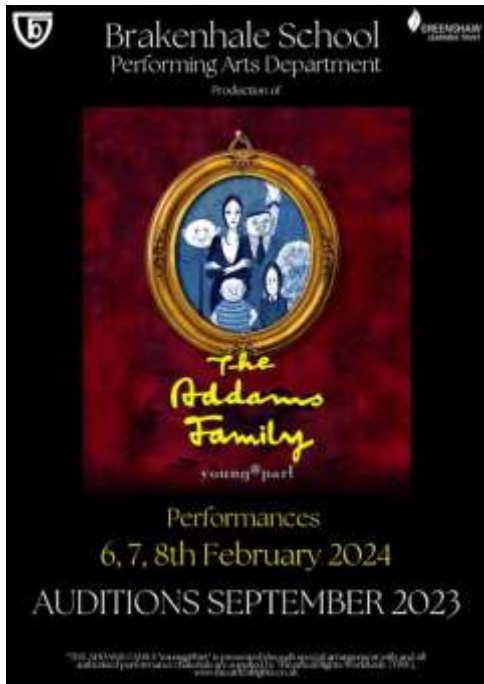
## Performing Arts

Mrs Millard, Head of Performing Arts

### Summer Showcase

The Performing Arts Department has finished this year with a bang with our Summer Showcase providing an evening of entertainment to many delighted friends, family and fellow students. The sold-out show was a huge success and enjoyed by the audience and performers alike. The show showed the amazing progress students have made in dance, music and in Musical Theatre club across the year. We hope to showcase further spectacular performances next year including our whole school show - The Addams Family!

### Upcoming Events





## Year 6 Transition

*Mr P McKane, Assistant Headteacher*

Last Wednesday and Thursday saw our new Year 7 students starting the beginning of an exciting journey as they transitioned to our school. We couldn't be more thrilled to have you join our vibrant community!

They had great fun over the two days, sampling many different lessons. Here are some examples of some fantastic masks that they made during their DT lessons. We can't wait to see the unique talents and perspectives you will bring to our school!

Parents and carers, thank you for entrusting us with the education and well-being of your children. We are committed to providing them with a safe, nurturing, and inclusive environment where they can thrive.

Welcome to our school! We're so looking forward to September and working with you to Aim High, Be Kind and Take Responsibility.



## Craft Club

*Mrs Robinson and Mrs Wilks, SEN Team*

Hello and welcome to craft club! Craft club runs on a Friday after school in A02, from 3.05 to 4pm.

Each week, there is a different theme, from painting on canvases, seashell windchimes, slime and clay making to name just a few. We encourage students to let us know of any festivals or celebrations they would like us to focus on.

All the materials are free, and the students can take the crafts home at the end of each session. Drinks and biscuits are available, and we accommodate special dietary requirements.

Craft club is a lovely way to end the week on, a way of unwinding and relaxing before the weekend.

Come and explore and try out something fun and creative.



# PSHE Summer Term Round-up

Ms Ioannidis, PSHE Lead

In PSHE this term, students in Years 7 to 11 have been focusing on the themes of relationships, health and identity throughout their lessons. They also participated in a Drop Down Day celebrating the wonderful diversity and inclusion within UK society.

Please find below the knowledge organisers which highlight the main points from the lessons for each year group. It would be fantastic if over the break you discussed these at home to support students further in their understanding of themselves and others.

In Sixth Form, Year 12 have started preparing their personal statements and exploring university and higher educational options before they embark on Year 13 and applying to UCAS.

For future PSHE topics and lesson break downs please visit our [curriculum overview](#) for next term and beyond on our website.

## Year 7

**RELATIONSHIPS AND CHANGES**



- Relationships, including friendships, can change over time and this is an important part of life.
- Focus on the **positive things** that you can bring to all your relationships now and in the future.
- You might need support from different people throughout your life as priorities change and you become more independent.
- It is normal for some relationships to end even if they are positive.

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**CONFLICT AND DISCERNMENT**

Feelings that people can experience in relationships:



Some of the negative feelings can lead to conflict.

Discernment is the ability to **judge well**, be **perceptive** and to have a **healthy sense of reality**.

This allows you to deal with conflict in a calm and positive manner.

**ASSERTIVENESS IN RELATIONSHIPS**

Being **assertive** is to: have or show a confident and forceful personality.

In order to be **assertive**, we need to know about **our rights**. If we have rights, **other people also have these rights too**.

If you know your rights you know what you **want** and **don't want to consent** to.

**Consent is when you give permission for something to happen or agreement to do something.**

Consent also applies to social media posts and expectations in relationships including sharing of images in a sexual manner.

It is **illegal** for **under 18s** to **have or take nude photos** of under 18s, even if it is of themselves.

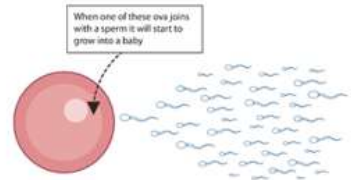
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**MY CHANGING BODY**

- Puberty is when a child begins to change into an adult.
- In girls this is about 8-14 years of age (average 11) and lasts about 4 years.
- In boys puberty starts around 9-14 years but takes around 6 years to reach sexual maturity.
- During this time many changes happen to your body...**physically** and **mentally**.
- Puberty starts when extra amounts of chemicals called hormones start to be produced in the body.
- The body produces the sex hormones **OESTROGEN**, **PROGESTOGEN** and **TESTOSTORONE** which are responsible for many different changes in the body

**HAVING A BABY**

**Fertilisation**



**Fertilisation** is the scientific term given for when a sperm meets an egg. When they join, fertilisation takes place and this is the start of a new life.

In humans, once the egg is fertilised, it takes around **40 weeks** (9 months) for the baby to fully develop in the uterus before birth.

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**SELF ESTEEM AND PERSONAL CHANGES**

**Five Tips to raise our self-esteem:**

- 1. Positive affirmations:** tell yourself that you are going to persevere until you succeed.
- Find the things you are **good** at and do them often so you experience success in certain areas of your life.
- 3. Learn to accept compliments!**
- 4. Stop criticising** yourself and be kind to yourself instead!
- 5. Identify a quality that you have which is valuable in the face of disappointment.** For example, if you fall out with a friend, identify all the times you have ben a really good friend and why - write them down.



Year 8

CONTROL AND RELATIONSHIPS

Having a healthy relationship with yourself:

- "Embrace your strengths and weaknesses"
"Take care of yourself"
"Fun and enjoyment are important"
"Focus on how you are feeling and why."
"Regularly make time for yourself."
"Use mindfulness techniques"
"Be your own best friend."

Top Tips for Taking Control

Talk to someone (to a trusted friend or responsible adult).

Write things down to clear your head.

Communicate your decisions clearly.

If you have uncomfortable feeling about a relationship, tell an adult.

Be truthful.

PERSONAL SPACE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

- Everyone has a right to their personal space being respected and should also be respectful towards others.
If you feel uncomfortable, do something about it.
Everyone has a responsibility to use social media appropriately, safely and legally.
Make sure you know where to find out more information if you are not sure about the safe and legal use of social media.
If you ever feel unsafe online or offline, speak to a trusted adult.



COERCION IN RELATIONSHIPS

Coercive control is where force or threats are used as a power tool to influence/ direct people's behaviour. This does not have to be physical.

Coercive control is a criminal offence. If you experience this form of abuse you can report it to the police.

- It is important to recognise what a healthy relationship looks like and to be aware of you or a friend are in a situation where there is an imbalance of power or coercion.
There are always people who can help and support you if you are feeling uncomfortable or threatened in any relationship.
Being able to know when there is power and control in a relationship and how to be assertive and/ or walk away from that relationship if possible, is essential.
Remind yourself that deserve positive, healthy relationships and do all you can to create relationships like that for yourself by what you bring to them.

INTIMATE RELATIONSHIPS

An intimate relationship involves physical and/ or emotional intimacy.

An intimate relationship could be one you have with someone romantically, in which you may choose to express your feelings physically if you both give consent.

An intimate relationship could be with a close family member or best friend where you share emotional links and private information that you wouldn't share with someone you just met.

What makes a healthy relationship?



ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIPS

Exploring sexuality

- Sexuality and sexual orientation is about who you're physically and emotionally attracted to.
It's natural to be confused about your sexuality or need time to work out who you are.

5 things to remember about your sexuality:

- Sexuality isn't a choice.
It takes different people different amounts of time to understand their sexuality.
Coming out is different for everyone.
There are lots of different types of sexuality.
Sexuality can change over time.

Table comparing Crush and Love characteristics like development speed and familiarity.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MEDIA

The Prime Minister and the Cabinet



The Prime Minister and their Cabinet run the country.

They will propose laws to parliament to be voted on.

5 Ways to Spot and Stop Fake News

Infographic with icons and text providing tips to identify and avoid fake news.

Year 9

MENTAL HEALTH AND EMOTIONS

Anxiety

One of the most common mental health issues to affect young people. It can feel low level like racing nerves, feeling a little sick, heart racing and sweaty palms but it will settle down once you've taken the exam.

Depression

It is also fairly common in young people and although we can all feel down sometimes it isn't just a mood. Depression can be much more serious and some symptoms include: Not wanting to get out of bed, lack of appetite or exercising, no interest in appearance, sleep problems, withdrawing from close friends and family, irritability and tiredness.

Social Phobias

Social phobias - are a type of anxiety where someone becomes very anxious when doing things in a public place, they imagine everyone will laugh at them or they will be criticised or humiliated in some way.

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)

Anxiety can lead to OCD where someone feels that something terrible will happen if they do not carry out certain actions and behaviours. This sometimes has a focus on cleanliness or repeating an action or behaviour multiple times.

Phobias



Stigma and Judgement

The lives of people with mental health conditions are often affected by stigma or even discrimination. Stigma is a reality for many people with a mental illness and they report that how others judge them is one of their greatest barriers to a complete and satisfying life.

SLEEP AND RESILIENCE

Interesting Sleep Facts

- Humans are the only mammal to willingly delay sleep.
We naturally feel tired at two different times of the day around 2:00pm and 2:00am.
People who don't get enough sleep are more likely to have larger appetites due to the fact their leptin levels (the appetite regulating hormonal) fall, promoting increased appetite.
Humans spend 1/3 of their lives sleeping.
The sensation of falling half asleep and jerking yourself awake is called 'hypnic jerks'.
People who have more money generally sleep better.
Sleep deprivation will kill you quicker than food deprivation.



Tips to Develop Your Resilience

- Recognise that your struggle is valid no matter what you are struggling with.
Think about how you are already resilient in other situations.
Know your strengths and use them.
Find help from others.
Take a break and rest.



POWER AND ASSERTIVENESS

Assertiveness

How to be assertive in a relationship:

Saying no can feel really hard, but here are some strategies to help:

- If appropriate, offer an alternative. Remember you are refusing the request, not rejecting the person.
Move away, change the subject, talk to someone else, but finish it off. Saying "no" becomes easier with practice.
Remember "no" doesn't have to be forever.



You always have a choice!

If you're not sure about something, it is easier to say no than have regrets about saying yes.

If someone is pushing you to do something you're not comfortable with, including sex, stand your ground and say no.

Remember the legal age of consent in the UK is 16.

Consent infographic showing 'Consent is NOT' with a red X over 'I agree' and 'I disagree' buttons.

SEXUAL ONLINE GROOMING / CSE

Grooming

What is grooming?

The action of preparing a child for a meeting, especially via an internet chat room, with the intention of committing a sexual offence.

Examples of grooming:

- Presenting to be an expert.
Giving gifts or special attention to a child or young person, making the child or young person feel special and/or indebted to an adult.
Groomers might also try and isolate children from their friends and family, making them feel dependent on them and giving the groomer power and control over them.
They might use blackmail to make a child feel guilty and shame or introduce the idea of secrets to control, frighten and intimidate.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

What is CSE?

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a type of sexual abuse. This is when a child or young person is exploited (made use of/taken advantage of). They're given things, like gifts, drugs, money, status and affection, in exchange for performing sexual activities.

Examples of CSE?

- Childhood:
sending or posting sexually explicit images of themselves.
filming or streaming sexual activities of themselves.
having sexual conversations.
taking part in sexual activities.



THE LAW AND PORNOGRAPHY

In the UK, it is legal for someone over the age of 18 to watch pornography as long as it does not feature:

- Young people under the age of 18
Sex with animals
Torture
Scenes of rape or sexual assault
Scenes which are life threatening or likely to cause serious harm

It is illegal to watch porn with someone under the age of 18 even if both people are under 18 and both wanted to watch it.

- If a young person makes a sex tape or takes photographic pictures (even of themselves) they could be guilty of creating an 'indecent image'. If they send the image to someone else, they could be guilty of distributing child porn.
The legal age to buy porn magazines or films in the UK is 18. Most porn websites try to prevent under 18's accessing them either by a disclaimer or by charging with a credit card.
Porn made in the USA has to certify that all persons were over the age of 18 when it was made.
Sex scenes can be shown on TV, as long as it does not show an erect penis or close-up genitals.

It may feel that pornography has become much more normalised in society, however it is in essence an unreal and often unsafe portrayal of relationships and sex.

Viewing pornography can lead to a host of unhelpful views and attitudes including poor self-esteem and body image. It is important to understand the dangers associated with pornography including legislation and work towards forming healthy relationships including your relationship with yourself.

CONTRACEPTION AND CONSEQUENCES

The age of consent to any form of sexual activity is 16 for both men and women.

The age of consent is the same regardless of the gender or sexual orientation of the person and whether the sexual activity is between people of the same or different gender. It is an offence for anyone to have any sexual activity with a person under the age of 16.

Home Office guidance is clear that there is no intention to prosecute teenagers under 16 where both mutually agree and where they are of similar age.



Contraception



Contraception is more commonly known as 'birth control'. Although some methods of contraception can prevent more than unplanned pregnancies; some methods can also prevent the transmission of sexual diseases and infections.

Contraception is often defined as: the deliberate use of artificial methods or other techniques to prevent pregnancy as a consequence of sexual intercourse.

It is important to know your own mind in relationships, to know what you think is healthy and positive and to have thoughts about what your expectations are in terms of intimacy.

Choosing to become sexually active is a choice that has consequences so be sure to consider how to stay safe.





Year 10

### MY RELATIONSHIPS: PEERS

**What healthy looks like:**


- Honest
- Trustworthy
- Fair
- Supportive
- Respectful
- Happy to be individual

**What unhealthy looks like:**

- Abusive (verbal or physical)
- Critical
- Controlling
- Pressuring
- Dishonest
- Overwhelming

**It's difficult to say no...**

- It can be hard to say 'no' to your friends, especially when they're all joining in.
- Sometimes it can feel like you have to do what they tell you to in order to be accepted. It can make you feel scared and alone.
- It's not okay for friends to pressure you like this. And it's not your fault. Try these tips to help:





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### MY RELATIONSHIPS: LOVE


**Our hormones as a relationship develops...**

**a Lust**




- Lust is driven by the desire for sexual gratification.
- The sex hormones androgens and testosterone are produced.

**b Attraction**




- Attraction involves the brain pathways that control "reward" which partly explains why the first few weeks or months of a relationship can be so exhilarating and even all-consuming.

**c Attachment**



- Attachment is the main factor in long term relationships.
- While lust and attraction are pretty much exclusive to romantic relationships, attachment makes friendship, parent-child bonding, and many other relations as well.

**d Oxytocin**



- Several of the regions of the brain affect love.
- Lust and attraction shut off the prefrontal cortex of the brain, which includes rational behaviour.

### MY RELATIONSHIPS: ENDING RELATIONSHIPS

**Green flags - what you should do!**

- End the relationship as soon as you know it can't go on. Ending off the relationship will hurt less than leaving it to fester.
- Break up in person. It's essential to be physically present to show that the relationship was important to you. Breakups by message may be common these days, but they hurt terribly and leave confusion in their wake.
- Be honest about your feelings. It will hurt your partner more if you don't acknowledge the fact that you're ending it at the same time. It's also important to remember when too much honesty can be harmful.
- Be clear and certain about your reasons for breaking up. Avoid vagueness. Show your partner respect.
- Take responsibility for your decision. Acknowledge that it's what you want, rather than blaming it on circumstances, or on your partner.
- Listen to the other person - without defending yourself. Hear and understand. Answer any questions as honestly as you can.
- Break off the relationship clearly. Cut off contact for some time after the breakup. It gives things for one person's feelings and to ensure that things have changed permanently.

**Red flags - what you shouldn't do...**

- Don't break up in public. You'll need to walk your partner to the appropriate location to have an honest discussion, and things will only worsen. Don't break up in a car, and it will be easier for your partner to ask these questions if the event occurs in a safe and at least semi-private location.
- Think about where you are going to break up when the conversation begins. You'll want to be in a safe place and have someone nearby who's experiencing such late feelings.
- Don't offer false hope. If you're certain you need to break up, it's better not to leave the relationship open-ended.
- Think about whether downgrading to a friendship will avoid more heartache in the long run. It may feel like a way to cushion the blow, but it doesn't come without emotions. It's better to discuss your partner to look back at the relationship as a good thing.
- Don't involve the other person. You've been important to each other, so try to give your partner your own space for the future.
- Encourage the other person to contact their support network when the relationship is over.
- Don't be intimate once you have broken up. It will only be intimate once you have broken up. It will only be intimate once you have broken up.

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### A CHANGING SOCIETY - SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media was "useful to keep in contact" with friends she does not frequently see face to face.

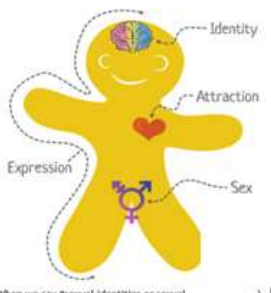
Online communication enabled some young people to be more "open and honest" in their conversations with friends about their "thoughts and feelings".

"the positive and empowering ways that young people use the internet—such as for communication, creativity and activism should not be overlooked".

Social media helped "to foster and sustain relationships"

90.5% of boys and 92.3% of girls in the UK agreed with the statement that "it is very useful to have social media networks on the internet"

### A CHANGING SOCIETY - GENDER



- When we say "sexual identities or sexual orientations" what we are talking about are the ways we categorise and define who we are attracted to, romantically, sexually, or otherwise.
- When we "gender identities" we are talking about the ways we categorise and define our genders.

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### A CHANGING SOCIETY - ME


**How to manage change...**

- Recognise that change (even though stressful) is a part of life. Life would be boring if things didn't change. Change keeps us fresh, alive.
- Anticipate change. Take an active role in your life. Being flexible and open to change will lessen the surprise when it does happen.
- Plan for the changes you know are coming up in your life.
- Practice coping with change.
- Learn to enjoy change. Understand that change is a part of life.
- Expect that change will happen over and over - and over again. Life is a series of changes.
- Talk about it.

Year 11

### INTIMATE RELATIONSHIPS

**Different stages of a relationship**



If you think you are ready to have sex, ask yourself the following questions:

- Does it feel right?
- Do I love my partner?
- Does he/she love me just as much?
- Have we talked about using condoms to prevent STIs and HIV, and wear the pill (C&P)?
- Have we both given our consent to protect against pregnancy?
- Do I feel able to say "no" at any point if I change my mind, and will we both be OK with that?


If you answer yes to all these questions, the time may be right.

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### DIVERSE RELATIONSHIPS

**Gender...**

- For some people their gender identity and sexuality is **fixed**, it does not change.
- For others, their gender identity and sexuality is **fluid**, each changes through their lives.
- This can lead to a range of **pronouns** being used to describe someone.
- It is respectful to call someone by the **pronouns they prefer**.



**Stereotypes...**

- The **media** often shows the LGBTQ+ community and the relationships they have in a **particular** way.
- It is important to remember the LGBTQ+ community is hugely **diverse** and whilst one portrayal may work for someone, it may not for someone else.
- It is important for **everybody** to celebrate the **wide range of diversity** around us and not limit our celebrations to a small number of people in the community.

### POWER IN RELATIONSHIPS

Healthy	Struggling	Unhealthy	Abusive
Trustworthy	Communication	Control	Isolation
Respectful	Respect	Disrespect	Humiliation
Supportive	Support	Blame	Blame
Empathetic	Empathy	Lack of Empathy	Indifference
Open	Openness	Secretiveness	Deceit
Kind	Kindness	Harshness	Harshness
Generous	Generosity	Selfishness	Selfishness
Compassionate	Compassion	Lack of Compassion	Indifference
Responsible	Responsibility	Irresponsibility	Irresponsibility
Reliable	Reliability	Unreliability	Unreliability
Consistent	Consistency	Inconsistency	Inconsistency
Stable	Stability	Instability	Instability
Secure	Security	Insecurity	Insecurity
Confident	Confidence	Lack of Confidence	Lack of Confidence
Assertive	Assertiveness	Passive	Passive
Self-Respectful	Self-Respect	Lack of Self-Respect	Lack of Self-Respect
Self-Confident	Self-Confidence	Lack of Self-Confidence	Lack of Self-Confidence
Self-Responsible	Self-Responsibility	Lack of Self-Responsibility	Lack of Self-Responsibility
Self-Respectful	Self-Respect	Lack of Self-Respect	Lack of Self-Respect
Self-Confident	Self-Confidence	Lack of Self-Confidence	Lack of Self-Confidence
Self-Responsible	Self-Responsibility	Lack of Self-Responsibility	Lack of Self-Responsibility

**What should people ask themselves and their partner before committing to a long term relationship?**

- Are they a good fit?
- Do they have a strong basis of friendship?
- Do they want the same things in their relationship and out of life?
- Are their expectations realistic?
- Do they generally see the best in each other?
- Do they both work at keeping their relationship vibrant?
- Do they both feel they can discuss things freely and raise issues with each other?
- Are they both committed to working through hard times?
- When they face stressful circumstances would they pull together to get through it?
- Do they each have supportive others around them?

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### SAFE RELATIONSHIPS

**Body Autonomy...**

**Body autonomy** is the right for a person to govern what happens to their **body** without external influence or coercion.

The idea of **'honour'** is, for some communities, extremely important. It relates to the reputation and social status of an individual, family or community.

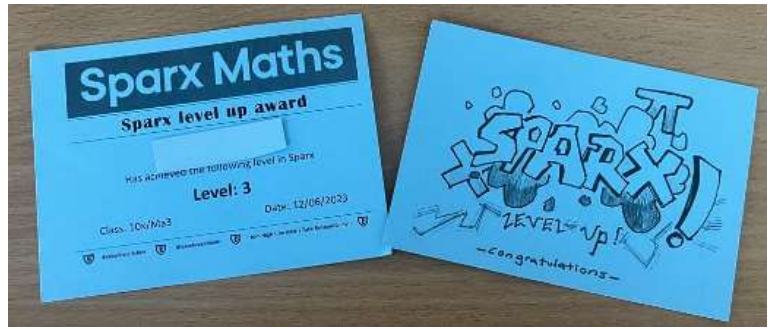


**Always challenge any idea of honour that takes away body autonomy**

## Maths

*Mrs D Turner, Sparx Maths Coordinator*

The Maths department would like to say thank you and well done to everyone who took part in the competition to create the new Sparx Level Up certificate. All students who entered will be given a golden ticket for aiming high with their entries, well done! First place goes to Mindy C in Year 10 whose design has been chosen to be the new certificate, Congratulations!



### Leveling up for Sparx Explained

Everytime a student completes a task, wins a minigame or completes some additional independent learning, they will be rewarded with Experience points (XP)

Students are rewarded with more points for going above and beyond.

There are 25 levels currently within Sparx with students increasing their level for every 10,000 XP they earn.

Homework	XP earned per task
Compulsory	40-70
XP Boost	135

Target	135
Independent Learning	100

## PE and Extra Curricular Round-Up

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

### 2022-23 round up for PE

Well that’s a wrap! Half term 6 and the school year... we are done! It’s been busy in PE this past half term, so please enjoy reading what has been going on and what our students and staff have been up to!

### 2023 Summer Student Awards

The annual PE and sports awards have been hotly contested in PE this year! We have given out 2 awards for each year group for PE (progress and effort) and also a sportsperson of the year award for each year group. It has been a privilege to read nominations from the PE staff and to select them and I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge well done to all the nominees and winners. You have shown what it takes to be truly amazing in our subject!

### 2023 Sports Day Review

This year we saw the return of sports day! The day took on its new format and approach as we did away with the traditional morning and afternoon athletics events and tailored the day to competitive sports and activities, finishing with the house 200m, 100m and relays in the afternoon. The day was a huge success, with yet again a great turn out in participation and engagement. A huge thanks to the PE staff and a few extra helpers on the day for making the day run superbly and giving our students a fabulous experience. The house winners went to **Temple**, a massive well done to them!







### Athletics Success at County

After competing in the district athletics championships earlier in the term, we had success with a number of students from Brakenhale. In the U15s and U17s, Daniel P (Year 10), Maya A (Year 10) and Grace S (Year 9) all made it to the county round, with Grace winning and going onto the nationals, well done Grace! In the U13s (Year 7) we had Jana L, Elisha C, Raphael C, Harrison H, Katie R and David S! Superb work from these students. A huge well done to Harrison who came 1<sup>st</sup> in the 600m, David who came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the long jump, Elisha who came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 75m, Jana who came 4<sup>th</sup> in the shot and Rafael who came 6<sup>th</sup> in the 75m. The Bracknell team came first overall.



### Goodbye to Year 11 and Year 13

Well, with the ever-revolving door of education we say goodbye to (some of) our Year 11 and 13 students. They have spent the last 5 or 7 years, depending on which year they were in, studying with us and being part of our department and that is something that we are grateful and thankful for. It has been a pleasure to teach them, get to know them and support them in their journey through education and everyone in PE wishes them the very best of luck for both their grades in the summer and their futures.

### Year 6 Transition Day

Only last week, we had the pleasure to welcome our new Year 7 students to the PE department as part of their transition day. We shared a fabulous afternoon of house competition on the astro where our new cohort took part in some house endball (similar to netball). The students played superbly and supported each other so well in their houses, displaying great teamwork and camaraderie. It was great to see and hopefully a sign of great things to come for next year. We look forward to seeing you all in September.

### ME in PE Home Communication

As part of our ongoing commitment to developing and supporting our students to be the very best version of themselves, our ME in PE data is sent home by our IT wizard in the department, Mr Maye. The email contains the assessment points that your child/ren have hit, giving you a bit more of an insight into their assessment strands they have achieved this year. Mr Maye goes into more detail further on in this newsletter. If you have any questions or feedback on this, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

### Thank you!

A special mention in this final edition must go to a few awesome staff who have helped to run clubs this year. Mr Bissitt, Ms White, Miss Belstone and Miss Suessmann have all chipped in, along with the PE staff, to help give our kids that little bit extra. The clubs we run and offer give our students another chance to be active, socialise, gain house points and be part of our school community and that is an awesome thing to be able to offer. So many thanks to you amazing people, for giving our students those opportunities.

## Reminders for next year

Just before I sign off for the year, here are a few things to think about, ready for PE next year in September:

Kit - please ensure PE kit is ordered in good time and is ordered in the right size for September. A lot of growth can occur over 6 weeks of summer, so think about this when ordering kit and buying trainers.

Kit labels - please ensure this is done on all items of kit, even with a good old sharpie pen! It helps us to return items of kit to students.

Medical notes - these will still continue to only be accepted by email, [pastoral@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:pastoral@brakenhale.co.uk). Paper notes were banished this year and this made life so much easier for PE staff as we had an electronic trail to help and support with persistent medical issues.

Lost property - this can be found in the PE boxes/containers or via head of year or the LRC. You can also email in to this address [lostproperty@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:lostproperty@brakenhale.co.uk) to see if it has been handed in.

Second-hand kit sale - we also offer a second-hand kit sale which can be accessed all year via email at [SecondHandSale@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:SecondHandSale@brakenhale.co.uk).

Water bottles - these can be brought from home or purchased from school and are recommended in all lessons, especially in PE. Please see Mrs McCrorie for these.

## Pastures New

A number of students and staff know this already but this will be my final newsletter for Brakenhale. My teaching journey at Brakenhale will come to an end this year as I move to a new post closer to home from September. It has been a fab five years at Brakenhale working with some great staff and students. I wish all members of the community and school all the very best for the future.

Finally it just leaves me to say thank you to all the students and staff who have contributed to the PE department. Have a fabulous 6 weeks off and the team will see you all in September to do it all over again. Many thanks and don't forget to follow us on social media - @brakenhalepe on twitter and instagram.

## Key Stage 3 (KS3) Review

WOW what a year we have had in KS3 for PE! The PE staff have been very impressed with all students and how they have adapted to PE and all the challenges that they have experienced running from trying new sports, improving in previously experienced sports and really giving their all in their PE lessons.

KS3 has also been amazing for extra-curricular and representing the school in Fixtures! We have had competitive Boys and Girls fixtures for Football, Rugby, Indoor / Outdoor Athletics, Rounders and Cricket - winning games, events, reaching semi-finals, representing district teams and even county level! You will find reports on these performances later on. It's been amazing seeing so many students competing in different sports, some students even playing up year groups to stretch and challenge themselves, which has been brilliant! Outside of school we have had some fantastic performances by some of our students in their own time with Athletic champions and national Boxing champions to name a few! Additionally we are so pleased to see so many students being rewarded for their progress and performance in the PE champion nominations!

We can't wait to see the new Year 7s in PE in September, see our current Year 7s progress to Year 8 and the same with our Year 8s into Year 9 and the challenges that they have in store! We wish all the best to our current Year 9s when they move to the exciting Key Stage 4 programme we have for them in Year 10!

## Rounders Round Up

What a fantastic season for our girls' rounders teams at Brakenhale! With over 40 dedicated players from Year 7 to Year 10, they showcased incredible talent, teamwork, and dedication. Despite limited practice, the teams quickly bonded and formed a strong group. Their passion created a supportive atmosphere, leading to their success.

Throughout the term, our girls participated enthusiastically in friendly matches and tournaments against other schools, displaying outstanding sportsmanship, resilience, and teamwork. They gave their best, supporting and celebrating victories together. Congratulations to our Year 7 to Year 10 girls' rounders teams on an outstanding season! Your passion, teamwork, and spirit have made us proud. We look forward to your future achievements and anticipate even greater success in the coming years.





Year 10 team - Maya A, Olivia C, Ella C, Sophie W, Rebecca W, Malika F, Sophie C, Emily S and Olivia S

Year 9 team - Zoe P, Abigail B, Gracie T, Taffy G, Kas K, Sachleen R, Cleo M, Florence B

Year 8 team - Isabella A, Lauren C, Anukshya S , Xae W, Carina P, Megan I, Divija S, Hannah R, Darcie B, Madison D

Year 7 team - Jana L, Frances B, Katie R, Lauren C, Molly E, Isobel B, Daisy M, Aimee E, Orla Rae G, Emma G



**Year 7 Athletics and Year 8 Cricket**

A huge well done to our Year 7 athletes who took part in the local athletics competition at Edgbarrow school earlier this term. All our Year 7 participants represented the school brilliantly both with their performances and effort and their behaviour. We are really proud of their hard work this year and look forward to more athletics tournaments next year.

Unfortunately our Year 8 cricket tournament at Brakenhale was postponed due to the weather, but we look forward to hosting the re-arranged tournament on Wednesday 12th July.

**Girls Football Reward Training Session**

Our Girls Football team were rewarded with a training session with Emma Harries from Reading Women WSL. A great time was had by all, the girls were amazing and they really enjoyed it! Thank you Emma.



**Year 9 Cricket – 27.6.23 and Year 8 Athletics – 28.6.23**

Well done to the Year 9 boys plus Elbie from Year 7 playing for the Year 9 team!!! Great work at the Year 9 6-a-side cricket!

Also a big shout out to the legends at the Year 8 Athletics event! Great job by them all!



## Year 8 Boys Football Team Reward Trip to Aldershot Town FC

The Year 8 Boys team was rewarded with a trip to one of our local teams and had a great afternoon of tour quiz history... even finding out Mr Maye had played for Aldershot Town many years ago!

The lucky boys met some of the players and saw the brand new kit launch and had a kick about!



### ME in PE

I hope that by the time you are reading this you have also received an email regarding a breakdown of your child's performance in PE via the ME in PE assessment. The report shows you what your child's PE teacher has assessed them across the Physical, Social, Thinking and Leading ME strands. You will have received these results as an overall percentage and Rank from the earlier reported ROA reports sent home. The report you have received from PE informs you how that overall score was made up and where your child's strengths and areas for improvement are.

We hope that you find this report useful and informative. If you have any specific questions relating to your child's individual scores then please email your child's PE teacher which you can find on the email.

### 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.



PE Champions for this Year

 #teambrakenhale #brakenhalepe		PE CHAMPIONS Summer Half Term 2 - WELL DONE!					
		Week beginning: 5/6/23		Week beginning: 12/6/23		Week beginning: 19/6/23	
Staff	Student	Tutor	Student	Tutor	Student	Tutor	
Mr Potter	Josh M	11A	Kaydon J	7B	Jermaine S	9E	
Mr Maye	Lily C	9K	Grace S	9N	Adam B	7E	
Mr Boucher	Megan E	9N	Daniel D	8R	Kelsie C	10H	
Ms Wilson			Lily K	7R	Marie L	8E	
Ms Montgomery	Sophie W	10B	Zoe P	9K	Divija S	8A	
  		Week beginning: 26/6/23		Week beginning: 3/7/23		Week beginning: 10/7/23	
		Staff	Student	Tutor	Student	Tutor	Student
Mr Potter	Ruby R	7N	Harrison H	7K	Harry G	8H	
Mr Maye	Harrison H	7K	Daniel K	7N	Lucien SH	7N	
Mr Boucher	Liam S	8N	Jacob B	7N	Ryan W	10R	
Ms Wilson	Tineale H	8E	Megan C	9N	Sarah E	10N	
Ms Montgomery	Hanna I	8K	Gracie T	9K	Tiana Y	10E	
#teambrakenhale #brakenhalepe							



**READING RASCALS JUNIOR TRIATHLON CLUB**

**OPEN TO ALL 7-14 Years Old\***

**FREE TASTER SESSION**

**All about FUN whilst swimming, cycling and running.**

SCAN ME

We also run holiday training camps. All sessions and camps are held at Palmer Park, Reading  
\*from 2009 - 2019

MORE INFORMATION AT [WWW.READINGRASCALS.CO.UK](http://WWW.READINGRASCALS.CO.UK)

## Careers @ Brakenhale

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

***“Never has there been a more important time for School and Home to be united to work together to get the best outcome for our young people.”***

### **Aim High**

Ever heard someone say ‘I didn’t know what I wanted to do when I was younger, and I turned out okay’? That’s what many Generation X, Xennials and Millennials say! Although if we really think about this, how do we know the true potential was achieved? What could life and careers really have been like with more guidance, information, inspiration and opportunities?

Our Brakenhale students are Gen Z - they are naturally having more exposure to life through the internet. The main challenge is to really channel their natural interest in the right direction. We must encourage our young people to use the internet productively, so as to inspire and spark interest in different careers. Weekly our students receive a ‘Careers email’ listing online opportunities with large businesses and organisations for virtual work experience and so forth. These events are free and should be well attended, as they give a great chance to get an understanding of what jobs they might like - and not like too! It means that students can attend work experience in varying sectors without leaving the home - no cost incurred!

To increase exposure to careers, in the hope to ignite enthusiasm - we are very busy planning next year’s lessons; all subject lessons will continue to evolve to link curriculum to learning - giving students a realisation how topics relate to industry and what jobs exist and what they entail. By educating your young people on what is out there, we can help raise their career aspirations, getting them to aim high. It has been proven that identifying links between what is learnt in the classroom and how that can be used in the workplace can increase a student’s engagement by 18 times! Wow, wouldn’t that make such a difference to the potential success of our students.

### **Be Responsible**

Employers and Universities now expect their future attendees to have work exposure. Someone with work exposure and a decent hobby on their CV is more likely to get an interview than one without. Any job is a benefit - if you are 13 years old then you are legally able to work (except in TV, Theatre and modelling) so try getting a paper round, job in a cafe, small garden centre, etc. Independent businesses are more relaxed about employing people under the age of 16. For students over 16 years old then larger employers are a possibility - for example shops and restaurants at the Lexicon. Imagine the staff discounts at JD Sports, Boots and Fenwicks! One student told me that by working each Saturday she gets paid about £160 a month. Not only are there financial rewards, but it is building a strong work ethic and necessary life experience. To help students get started in their employment seeking, I have created a presentation listing ‘How to make a CV’ as well as links to part time jobs, it can be found in the weekly Careers email that goes out to ALL students.

### **Be Kind**

Our students have a range of opportunities when they leave Year 11 - full time education, Apprenticeships or Part time education combined with part time work. I am delighted to say we are the main feeder into our outstanding rated Brakenhale Sixth Form. Our School is also the Platinum Partner to Active Learning (Bracknell & Wokingham College and Reading College), due to being the largest feeder into them also. This year we have become the highest feeder school into the Get Active Football Academy Apprenticeship, we have placed 9 Year 11 students into their football team of 15! They are thinking of renaming their team Brakenhale! Our Year 11 Students are going to a mix of full-time education and Apprenticeships and we wish them all the best.

Thinking of the future, an important thought to help encourage all students to work to their best ability - GCSE leavers going onto vocational courses are enrolled on level 1, 2 or 3 Diplomas. If a student starts on Level 1 or 2 then it will take them 3 years to complete all the way to a level 3. If they go straight to level 3 then it will only take them 2 years. The level of the vocational course is decided on based on GCSE grades, so I would recommend students really focus on their revision and balance of life in Year 11 as it could shave a potential year off their future education. It is important that the students are kind to themselves and give themselves the best chance to succeed to get to where they need to be.





This year Apprenticeships have also been popular. Students have secured their 80% work and 20% course-based option within Hairdressers, Childcare Nurseries and other roles. We will increase the number of Apprenticeship applications next year I believe. I have created and distributed a '7 Steps to an Apprenticeship Guide' this is to give students more confidence in how to apply and what kind of work is available. It is important that we start to recognise Apprenticeships as the true gem they have become - far from the days of the YTS world.

A big part of our Careers drive at Brakenhale is getting the Students to 'dare to dream' by the exposure of careers - they can then be more aware of the opportunities out there then plan the steps on how to get there... This would be driving away from the ethos of choosing a next step only based on what subjects they like to do or what their friends are doing next. So let's change the mindset of 'we turned out okay' and get our next generation to use the internet, community networks and school systems to aim high for their career aspirations - be responsible in being self-motivated to work and industry exposure - and be kind to themselves by revising and being focused so as to achieve their possible grades through a balanced lifestyle. It is always good to be mindful of Labour Market Information as that can help make career choices easier, to focus on choosing a job in a thriving industry. These reports show what areas of industry are on the increase or decline:

[2022 Skills report](#)

[Labour Market Information 2023](#)

Things I would encourage ALL students to do over the Summer holiday:

- Write a CV
- Get a holiday/part time job
- Learn to maintain a good balance of life (sleep/eat/work right)
- Use the Internet to explore different jobs and industries

Please encourage your young people to do this... it is so important to help them move forward.

I look forward to welcoming the Students back in September.

Wishing you a healthy, safe and happy break.

### Careers Review

We are delighted to have passed our recent external Careers Review last week, whilst gaining a 100% score in a number of categories. We have been recognised for our 'Raising Aspirations' culture and the significant careers provision in the School.



## Identity

*Mrs D Lewis, English Teacher*

Identity - This year we have designed a lesson that was taught as part of Drop Down Day and helped create and run our first ever Pride at Brakenhale. This is such a great achievement - you should all be very proud of yourselves! I wonder what next year will bring?

## English and Literacy

Mrs D Lewis, English and Literacy

### KS3 Book Club

We have finished the year, reading our own choice of book. And some have got through more than one book!

It has been a pleasure and a dream meeting KS3 students to discuss what we have been reading throughout the year. I would like to 'shout out' to Isabella Anderson who has really challenged her reading in terms of genre, theme and style - an avid, multi-tasker reader.

### LRC Corner

The student librarians have really stepped up in recent months. A perfect example of taking responsibility - well done and a massive thank you to you all. It has been wonderful, being part of such a great, hard-working team.



### Global Journalist - shortlisted

#### Broadmoor - Patients or Prisoners?

A banshee wails, every Monday morning, 10am. For 2 minutes, the alarm of the most infamous psychiatric hospitals in the world rings. Broadmoor is one of three high security psychiatric hospitals in England and Wales. It houses some of the world's most dangerous criminals who present a threat to themselves and others. Recently, Broadmoor has been on the front covers due to an appeal, filed by one of their residents. Broadmoor has over 800 staff including psychiatrists, doctors, security guards and nurses all specially trained to deal with the physical and mental abuse they may get. Training occurs monthly, including scenarios that may happen and how to deal with them.

For years there has been the question of whether or not those who attend Broadmoor are patients or prisoners.

The fact that Broadmoor is a high security building housing criminals, suggests that the vast building is indeed a prison. During their trial, an assessment is performed to determine whether their behaviour and mental stability deems them suitable for a mainstream prison. The majority of the Broadmoor patients are convicts who have previously attended a general population prison; most are moved to Broadmoor because of an instance of violence or worrying behaviour. For example, the notorious Michael Peterson better known as Charles Bronson, is often dubbed as Britain's most violent prisoner. In 1974, he was convicted of armed robbery and sent to a mainstream prison, he had brief spells outside of prison although he eventually ended up back in prison with a discretionary life sentence due to many other minor crimes. His reputation as a dangerous and unstable inmate caused his admission to Broadmoor. In March, Bronson filed an appeal to be released from Broadmoor although, recently it was decided that he would not be released. However, not all inmates are transferred from a mainstream prison, some are deemed unsuitable for mainstream at their trial. So, the question remains are the residents of Broadmoor patients or prisoners?

Many residents of Broadmoor had a troublesome childhood, some even forced into crime and gangs for self protection from those supposed to protect them. This can cause PTSD and self harm meaning 24hr supervision is necessary. In daily therapy sessions, patients work through their problems and feelings to support movements to more independent sectors. Throughout the hospital there are different levels of independence and security, some are able to be trusted in a supervised workshop where they produce work. This work can be sold and a section of the profit is given to the patient to spend in the onsite shop. The levels of independence depend on a psychiatrist's approval. An approval can send a patient to a rehabilitation type sector, this enables more outside time and even supervised cooking. Due to the type of medications the patients take, it can have a knock on effect on their physical health. These can cause obesity, respiratory issues and heart disease; the drugs also often have sedative effects on the patients. This evidently shows the patient side of Broadmoor.

Broadmoor is a NHS owned and funded hospital. Although, many have asked the question as to why the NHS fund Broadmoor. It does indeed house convicts. Still the question remains, are those who inhabit Broadmoor patients or prisoners?

Annabelle C has been successful with her political piece of journalism. A huge achievement - Well done Annabelle - keep writing! Annabelle, in Year 8, was shortlisted for the Global Young Journalist Awards!

The virtual awards ceremony took place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June.

This celebration is a fun and exciting event where everyone that participated in this year's competition is honoured for their exceptional work. Additionally, attendees had the chance to connect with other talented young journalists from around the world and hear exclusive insight from industry professionals!

Congratulations on your well-deserved recognition Annabelle! Here is what she wrote:



# Day Camps

## Holiday Activities

### 8-12yr olds

24th July — 18th August 2023  
8.30-17.00 each day

**From £20.00 per day or £90 per week**

- Optional Free Breakfast & Lunch
- OFSTED Registered EY408844
- We accept Child Care Vouchers
- We accept HAF Vouchers
- Sibling Discounts Available

**Early Bird Discount**  
Book a full week before 1st July and Save £10



The Wayz Youth Centre, Calfridus Way, Bracknell, RG12 9ET

If you receive HAF (Holiday Activity and Food) codes please book via <https://eequ.org/>  
For more information or to book on please contact [admin@thewayzyouth.co.uk](mailto:admin@thewayzyouth.co.uk)

## Our Programme

Our Summer Holiday Activity programme will offer a range of **NEW** activities inflatables and trips.

Multi Sports, Arts & Crafts, Pool, Table Tennis, Cooking, Street Art, Team Challenges, Field Games, Xbox 5, Wii, Dance, Drama, Games, Orienteering, Water Games and Activities and Prizes ...

**Inflatable Games and Challenges**

All from £20.00 per day or £90 per week

	Introductions Activities	Woodland Activities	Inflatable Madness Activities	Aldershot Lido	Orienteering Activities
All Week <input type="checkbox"/>	Mon 24th <input type="checkbox"/>	Tues 25th <input type="checkbox"/>	Wed 26th <input type="checkbox"/>	Thurs 27th <input type="checkbox"/>	Fri 28th <input type="checkbox"/>
24th—28th July					
£90.00	£20	£20	£20	£27.5	£20
All Week <input type="checkbox"/>	Mon 31st <input type="checkbox"/>	Tues 1st <input type="checkbox"/>	Wed 2nd <input type="checkbox"/>	Thurs 3rd <input type="checkbox"/>	Fri 4th <input type="checkbox"/>
31st July—4th Aug					
£90.00	£20	£20	£20	£27.5	£20
All Week <input type="checkbox"/>	Mon 7th <input type="checkbox"/>	Tues 8th <input type="checkbox"/>	Wed 9th <input type="checkbox"/>	Thurs 10th <input type="checkbox"/>	Fri 11th <input type="checkbox"/>
7th — 11th Aug					
£90.00	£20	£20	£20	£27.5	£20
All Week <input type="checkbox"/>	Mon 14th <input type="checkbox"/>	Tues 15th <input type="checkbox"/>	Wed 16th <input type="checkbox"/>	Thurs 17th <input type="checkbox"/>	Fri 18th <input type="checkbox"/>
14th—18th Aug					
£90.00	£20	£20	£20	£27.5	£20



If you receive HAF (Holiday Activity and Food) codes please book via <https://eequ.org/>  
For more information or to book on please contact [admin@thewayzyouth.co.uk](mailto:admin@thewayzyouth.co.uk)

# The Wayz 13-17yrs Activities



Date	Time	What	Where	Cost
Wed 26th July	8.30-16.30	Paddle Sports (4 activities)	Wokingham Waterside Centre	£25.00
Wed 2nd August	8.30-16.30	London Day Out	London Landmarks	£25.00
Wed 9th August	8.30-16.30	Beach Trip	Boscombe	£10.00
Wed 16th August	8.30-13.30	Aqua Inflatables	Lagoona Park	£15.00
Wed 23rd August	8.30-16.30	Swimming	Aldershot Lido	£10.00
Fri 18th- Sun 20th August	Fri 14.00 Sun 16.30	Camping (Not eligible under HAF)	New Forest	£30.00

**All activities include a FREE choice of lunch**

If you receive HAF (Holiday Activity and Food) codes please book via <https://eequ.org/>  
For more information or to book on please contact [admin@thewayzyouth.co.uk](mailto:admin@thewayzyouth.co.uk)



# Youth Spaces



This Summer

24th July –1st Sept

Every Monday, Thursday and Friday 2-6pm

- Pool Table
- Table Tennis
- Table Football
- Competitions
- Woodwork

**FREE ENTRY**

Just drop-in or stay the  
wholetime.

- Graffiti
- PS5 & Nintendo Switch
- Cooking
- Games
- Music

Braccan Walk Youth Centre, The Ring, RG12 1DR



Each day there will be **FREE dinner**

This is for ages 12–16 years.

For more information or to book on please contact [admin@thewayzyouth.co.uk](mailto:admin@thewayzyouth.co.uk)

# Mobile Hub



Summer Holiday Activities

## Community Sports and Games

Every Tuesday

2.00-3.30pm

Braybrook

Recreation Field

Priestwood

For ages  
11–16 years



Every Friday

4.00-5.30pm

Green Hill

Recreation Field

Great Hollands

The Wayz working in partnership with Bracknell Town Council









## Supporting Your Children Workshops




To book a space please email which course you'd like to attend, your name and contact number to [Inge.Taylor@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:Inge.Taylor@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)

**Courses are for adults supporting children **not** the children themselves and each course is a **standalone 2-hour session**.**

**Please be aware that spaces are offered on a **first come first served basis**  
Once you have completed an enrolment form your space will be confirmed.**

**Please only book onto the sessions if you are *going to be able to attend* to avoid other parents missing out on the opportunity to have a place**

<p><b>Helping children to overcome anxious thoughts and worries</b></p> <p><b>A 2-hour session looking at</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What happens when children become anxious</li> <li>• Impact current events have had on children's mental health</li> <li>• Techniques for helping children deal with their fears / worries</li> </ul>		
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 <i>@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre</i>	6.30 – 8.30 pm	
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 <i>@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre. Priority for Fox Hill parents although there may be spaces for parent from other schools</i>	9.30 – 11.30 am	
<p><b>Managing Behaviour in a Positive Way</b></p> <p><b>A 2-hour session looking at</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gain insight into your parenting style / relationship with your child</li> <li>• Learn or revisit positive ways of managing behaviour</li> <li>• Strategies to deal with unacceptable behaviours</li> </ul>		
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 <i>@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre</i>	9.30 – 11.30 am	
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 <i>@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre</i>	6.30 – 8.30 pm	
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 <i>@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre - Priority for Fox Hill parents although there may be spaces for parent from other schools</i>	9.30 – 11.30 am	
<p><b>Supporting Children to get a Healthy Night's Sleep</b></p> <p><b>A 2-hour session looking at</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The different sleep issues facing our families</li> <li>• Tips on how to get a good night's sleep.</li> <li>• Help children develop good sleeping habits</li> </ul>		
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 <i>@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre</i>	6.30 – 8.30 pm	
<p><b>Parenting pre / early-teens in a Positive Way (aged 10 – 13)</b></p> <p><b>A 2-hour session looking at</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gain insight into the impact of your parenting style</li> <li>• Positive techniques for managing older children's behaviour</li> <li>• Boosting your relationship and communication with your child</li> </ul>		
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 <i>@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre</i>	9.30 – 11.30	



<p><b>Reducing Sibling Rivalry</b></p> <p><b>A 2-hour session looking at</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging a more harmonious sibling relationship</li> <li>• Learn / revisit techniques for children to cope with being a sibling</li> <li>• Boosting children's emotional literacy</li> </ul>		
<p>Thursday 28th September 2023 @ Bracknell Open Learning Centre</p>	<p>6.30 – 8.30 pm</p>	
<p><b>Single Parent, Separated and Blended families – supporting children to cope with different family dynamics</b></p> <p><b>A 2-hour session looking at</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Different family dynamics and how they can work</li> <li>• Parental conflict resolutions</li> <li>• Being the best parent that you can be for your child</li> </ul>		
<p>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023 @ Bracknell Open Learning Centre</p>	<p>9.30 – 11.30</p>	
<p><b>Supporting a smooth transition to secondary school (YR 5/6 parents)</b></p> <p><b>A 2-hour session looking at</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What the transition involves</li> <li>• The positives and concerns of transitioning to a new setting</li> <li>• Boosting your child's ability to have a smooth transition</li> </ul>		
<p>Please let me know if you would like to add your name to the waiting list for next year <a href="mailto:Inge.Taylor@bracknell-forest.gov.uk">Inge.Taylor@bracknell-forest.gov.uk</a></p>		

**South Central Ambulance Service**

**Vs**

**The Fire Service**

**Charity Football Game**

27<sup>th</sup> August 2023  
Kick off @13:00pm  
@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  
[catborrichards7@gmail.com](mailto:catborrichards7@gmail.com)



Cancer Research is the chosen charity for this event  
 Giving page details - <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/collums-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



# SEN Update

Mrs J Fear, SENCo



**GEMS**  
01753 373 244 / 0800 999 1342  
https://www.gems4health.com  
gems.4health@nhs.net

## Learn More...

**Access to our 'Learn More' animations**  
Covering a range of topics, our 'learn more' animations can be viewed at your own leisure and frequency once you have requested your link.

Please contact the GEMS Team on **01753 373244** or at **gems.4health@nhs.net** to obtain your link for any of the following topics:

- What is Autism?
- Autism & Communication
- Autism & Sensory Difficulties
- Autism & Anxiety
- Autism & Navigating Services
- Autism & Practical Budgeting Skills
- What is ADHD?
- Managing ADHD
- ADHD: From Diagnosis to Management



**GEMS**  
01753 373 244 / 0800 999 1342  
Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm  
https://www.gems4health.com  
gems.4health@nhs.net

**GEMS offers free information & support to parents & carers of children with, or likely to have autism &/or ADHD residing within East Berkshire. (Slough, Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead or Bracknell Forest.)**

**WHAT DO WE PROVIDE?**

Whatever stage of your autism/ADHD journey, GEMS offers a single point of contact where you can access information, advice and support alongside free courses, workshops and animations.

- For parents and carers: Free workshops, courses & a series of animated learnings.
- For children aged 5 & over, young adults and the over 25's: a schedule of social group sessions.
- Signposting to local & national services.



**storyy**

**Come and join us for fun and engaging activities to motivate our young people aged between 11-16 years during the summer holidays.**

**What is HAF?**  
Government funded HAF programme for all young people who are eligible for free school meals

There is something for everyone...

• Energetic Sports Sessions <i>Football, Cricket, Football, Tennis, Basketball</i>	• Construction <i>Building, Modelling, Claywork</i>
• Coding	• Games Sessions
• Hair and Beauty	• Art and Design <i>Painting, Collage, Drawing, and Pottery</i>
• Creative Arts <i>Drama, Writing and Dance</i>	• Dethreading
• Videography <i>Editing and Postcards</i>	• Cooking

For more information or to book your place now visit your local authority HAF website or contact us directly on +44 (0) 1344 860 868

### Summer Holiday Activities

HAF is a government funded programme which offers summer holiday activities which are free for all young people who receive free school meals.

Running from 31<sup>st</sup> July until 25<sup>th</sup> August, please book directly via the website link here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/holiday-activities-and-food-programme/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-2023>

### Boxing

Congratulations to Nancy, Ryan, Jay and Pacey who have achieved 4 Standard Awards and Max who has passed his Preliminary Award. Thank you to Liam Alloway from LA Boxing for supporting these achievements.

All the students have been fantastic to teach and have made some massive improvements to achieve these awards.





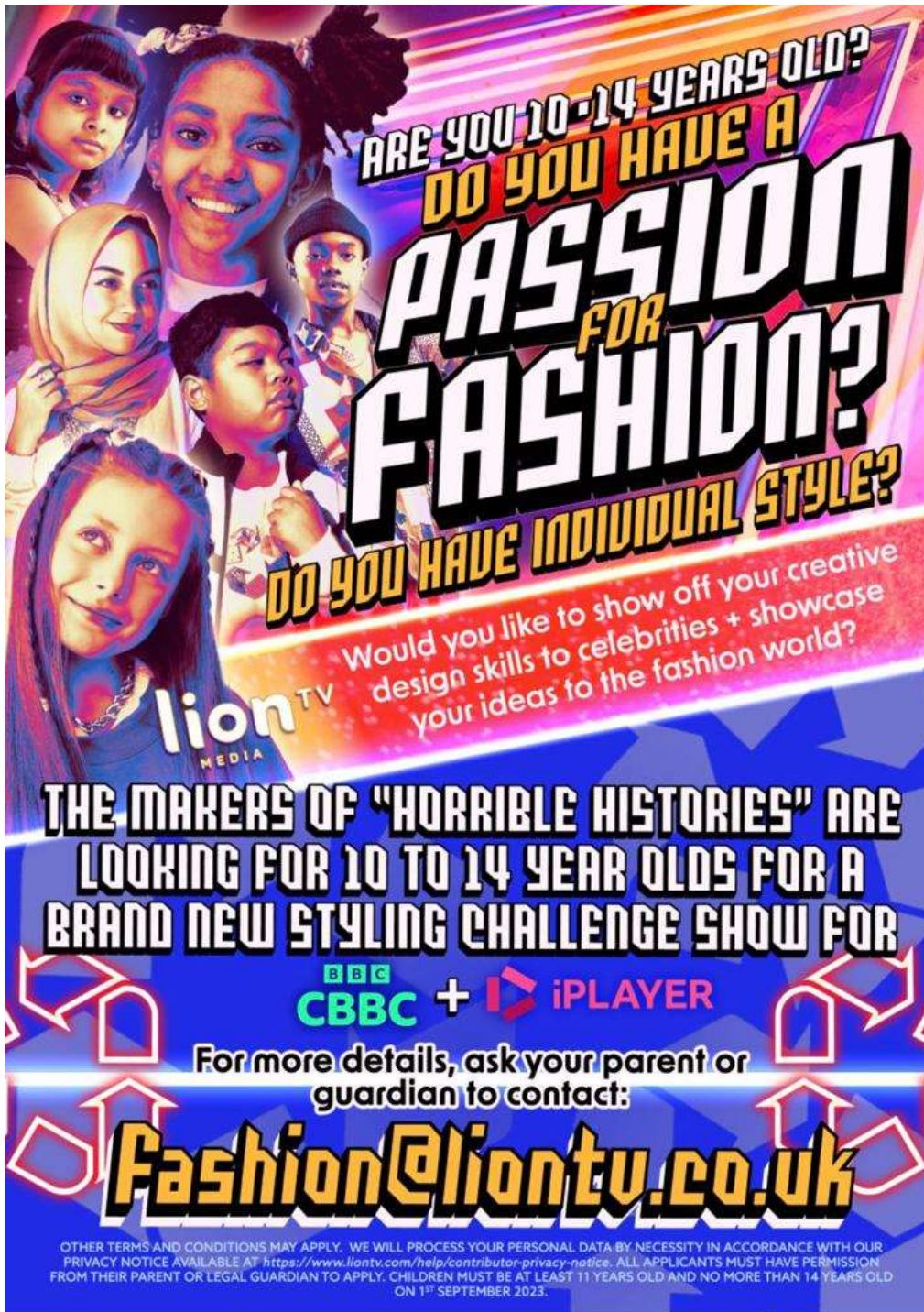
### CASTING CBBC Sustainable Fashion Show

CBBC and Lion Television are looking for budding young designers aged 10-14 years old, (they must be aged 11 by September 1st 2023) for a new series about sustainable fashion.

In each episode we will see young creative minds come together to create bold and colourful outfits reusing, re-claiming and upcycling fabulous fashion by using only vintage, second-hand and sustainable materials.

The children will need to be great designers but do not necessarily have to be great with a sewing machine as they'll be paired with a creative who can help them cut/sew/stitch/paint their outfits within a few hours!

Anyone interested in applying can email [Fashion@liontv.co.uk](mailto:Fashion@liontv.co.uk) or apply through the CBBC Website on the following link - [Be on a Show: Style It Out - CBBC - BBC](#)



**ARE YOU 10-14 YEARS OLD?  
DO YOU HAVE A  
PASSION  
FOR  
FASHION?  
DO YOU HAVE INDIVIDUAL STYLE?**

Would you like to show off your creative design skills to celebrities + showcase your ideas to the fashion world?

**lion TV**  
MEDIA

**THE MAKERS OF "HORRIBLE HISTORIES" ARE  
LOOKING FOR 10 TO 14 YEAR OLDS FOR A  
BRAND NEW STYLING CHALLENGE SHOW FOR**

**BBC  
CBBC + iPLAYER**

For more details, ask your parent or guardian to contact:

**Fashion@liontv.co.uk**

OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS MAY APPLY. WE WILL PROCESS YOUR PERSONAL DATA BY NECESSITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR PRIVACY NOTICE AVAILABLE AT <https://www.liontv.com/help/contributor-privacy-notice>. ALL APPLICANTS MUST HAVE PERMISSION FROM THEIR PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN TO APPLY. CHILDREN MUST BE AT LEAST 11 YEARS OLD AND NO MORE THAN 14 YEARS OLD ON 1ST SEPTEMBER 2023.



## Dear Year 7 Parents/Carers and Students

Well done Year 7s on another very busy and successful term. We are now at the end of our first year at Brakenhale. I hope you can look back and reflect on our first chapter and be proud of the progress you have made. Each and every one of you have had individual success, not only within this term but throughout this year. I would like to thank those of you who have embedded our key values of aiming high, being kind and taking responsibility in everything you do, not just inside of school but in the wider community. You have represented Brakenhale well and worn our uniform with pride. Miss Campbell-Watson and I are so proud of our journey so far and the progress you have made to ensure you are being the best version of yourselves.

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 see you be recognised for all your hard work and a very big well done to you all.

Our annual awards celebration was amazing and it is always amazing to see you get recognised for all of your tremendous achievements. Please see the list of winners below.

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Effort</i>	<i>Progress</i>	<i>Special Awards</i>	
English	Mia	Hayden	Head of Year Award	Molly D
Maths	Olivia	Amber	Sportsperson of the Year	Rafael C
Science	Joshua	Jacob		Lauren C
Dance	Maisie	Alexandra	Student Librarian	Isla H
Drama	Lauren	Grace		
Art	Isobel	Isla		
Design Technology	Amber	Ching		
Food	Zac	Arsenii		
Textiles	Emma	Molly		
Geography	David	Daniel		
History	Connor	Evie		
ICT/Computing	Santana	Oliwier		
French	Manny	Sofia		
Spanish	Emily	Laila		
Music	Ishikha	Isabelle		
PE	Izzy	Elbie		
PSHE	Kian	Isaac		
Religious Studies	Sophie	Joshua		

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 our overall winners this year.... 7R! Who have remained our champions throughout the year. This shows that everything you do counts; every achievement point you receive goes towards your overall tutor achievement points.

<b>7R</b>	7H	7A	7B	7K	7N	7E
<b>3980</b>	3765	3710	3710	3595	3420	3150

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 of Year 7. A really big well done and what a fantastic achievement.

Daniel K	7N	68
Mia B	7H	62
Ishika S	7K	55
Oliwier M	7N	52
Chantelle W	7A	52

**Thank you and Goodbye**

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Miss Gooding and Miss Reggler who have been valuable tutors of our Year 7 family. I would like to thank Miss Gooding and Miss Reggler for all the support and guidance they have shown the students at Brakenhale, not only in 7H and 7B but across the wider school community. I am sure you will join me in wishing them both the best of luck on their new adventures.

A huge thank you to all of our tutors who have worked extremely hard behind the scenes to ensure your first year here at Brakenhale was successful. I am sure you will join me in wishing them a restful break. A massive thank you to Miss Campbell-Watson and Ms Manlay for their continued guidance and support over this term.

**Final Message**

As we approach the summer holidays please take this time to recharge and ensure you are ready for our next chapter. The summer holidays are a time for you to enjoy yourselves and spend time doing the things you enjoy. Please remember to uphold our key values whilst you are enjoying your holidays.

Have a lovely summer holiday Year 7 and we look forward to welcoming you back as our new Year 8 cohort.

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





## Dear Year 8 Parents/Carers and Students

It is unbelievable that the next time I address you, you'll be Year 9 students. The young children I met in Year 6 when Mr Coley and I went to your primary schools for visits and assemblies are not the young people we have with us today. And rightly you shouldn't be. You are developing into the young people your parents and us as a school are very proud of.

Your achievements this year have been amazing: we've had students representing the country in various activities - Luke, Enya and Esosa in Dance; Louie for Boxing; Jess for achievement in Kickboxing; Footballers representing us well at the county level; Cadets roughing it in the wilds without complaining; Kacie, Elisha, Lewis, and Bella for representing us so ably on National TV; students succeeding at Jamie's Farm - just to name a few! Our annual awards celebration was a fabulous event and it is always amazing to see our students get recognised for all of their amazing achievements. Here are the winners:

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Effort</i>	<i>Progress</i>	<i>Special Awards</i>	
English	Kamari	Karl	Head of Year Award	Henrik G
Maths	Esosa	Jamie	Sportsperson of the Year	Louie D
Science	Joshua	Noah		
Dance	Xae	Ella		
Drama	Ehren	Markus		
Art	Arisha	Kai		
Design Technology	Martin	Emilia		
Food	Kakun	Harry		
Textiles	Olivia	Chloe		
Geography	Mason	James		
History	Harry	Abigail		
ICT/Computing	Myah	Anthony		
French	Humairah	Ian		
Spanish	Divija	Isabelle		
Music	Ryan	Phebe		
PE	Jessica	Samba		
PSHE	Marcellus	Thomas		
Religious Studies	Abbie	Ahmed		

We have student reps taking our views and bringing about changes via the student council and Anti Bullying ambassadors supporting students in school.

You have epitomised our mantra and core values of Aim High, Take Responsibility and Be Kind on a daily basis. Your resilience and determination to succeed academically and grow socially are evidenced in the messages your tutors want to share with you:

Well done for another fantastic Year 8R. It has been a pleasure to see you all grow and mature throughout this year. The majority of you do the right thing all of the time, keep the hard work up and Year 9 will be a breeze!

**Mr Futcher**

Well done for all of your hard work and efforts this year. My first year with you as a tutor has been amazing and I am so proud of all the progress you have made throughout Year 8. We have had new people join us throughout the year and it has been lovely to see how welcoming you all are and making sure that we always work together as a team. Some of you have faced many challenges this year and through dedication and hard work have shown excellence in all that you do. I am sure that next year will be another amazing year together and we will continue striving to be the best. I am so proud to be your tutor and excited for another year together in Year 9 - hope you have an amazing summer break, you deserve it! **Miss Kaur**



WOW, how has another year gone past!!! We have been through ups and downs this year but I've been proud of you all with everything we have faced, you have risen to the challenge, taken feedback on board and adapted accordingly. We have seen many of you excelling in a number of things both in and out of school, winning awards, reaching semi-finals, representing the school... overall each of you all has made me a proud tutor and can't wait to see how much you all grow as people in an important year of decisions for you all! Rest up over the summer, stay safe, make lots of lasting memories and I'll see you all in Year 9! All the best! **Mr Maye**

What an awesome group of students you all are! Since becoming your tutor at the beginning of the summer term I have had the pleasure of helping you with the trials and tribulations of the summer term whilst enjoying reading Bear Grylls 'Mud, Sweat and Tears' with you during the morning tutor reading programme. His messages of hard work, resilience and never giving up despite encountering failures are ones I hope you take with you into Year 9 and beyond. I hope you all get to enjoy a restful summer, whether you are going away or staying at home, and I am looking forward to all the wonderful things you will achieve next year. **Mr Swynford -Lane**

Hi 8A. I can definitely say we've had a year. With all these strike days, and bank holidays, I'm surprised you're all still here, coming to school every day. While we didn't quite reach the same house point high as last year, you've all done me proud with the amount of effort that has been put into school work. Ensure you rest up over the Summer break and come back refreshed and ready for a fantastic Year 9. Have a summer holiday and I'll see you as 9A in September. **Mr Lloyd Ahmed**

Well done 8K - Year 8 completed! It has been a fun year as your tutor, and I will be sad not to be going into Year 9 with you, especially as you are the best form at lining up. Have a great summer break and come back ready to smash Year 9. It's an even better year than Year 8! **Mr Mavromichalis**

Another year done - I cannot believe how fast this has gone! You are all another year older and another year wiser. You have all achieved so much over this year, both inside and outside of school, and I continue to be proud to be your Assistant Head of Year. I know that you will continue to achieve and challenge yourself next year as you make some big choices regarding your future studies. Some of you have continued to work hard and be kind despite some hardships in your personal lives and this is such an admirable trait! I wish you all a fun filled summer and look forward to welcoming you back in September as official Year 9s ready to grab all the opportunities that come your way. **Miss Appleton**

You should be proud of your academic achievements so far, which are putting you in good stead for the final year of Key Stage 3. We have so much to look forward to in Year 9. Options evening and process being the highlight of this particular year. I cannot complete a message to you without speaking about attendance. We have to be in school to maintain the high standards we have set ourselves. For some of us, our attendance has taken a nosedive this year, and it cannot be the same next year. We must be in school in front of the experts in different subjects if we are to continue to achieve and do well. We must remember that eventually, as a year group and as individuals you will be competing against every child nationally in your year group for University places, for College places, for Apprenticeship opportunities and for a spot in a Sixth Form College. You will be at a disadvantage if you do not meet the required grade criteria and to do so you must be in school in front of your teachers to achieve those grades. That starts now. Whatever your long-term goal is, you need a solid foundation to achieve them and part of that is being in school on a full-time basis every day. We learn to cultivate good habits and learn to be resilient when we do this. Please make a determination to either improve on your current attendance or maintain the 100% that some of you have achieved this year. Well done to those who have done so.

So Year 8, I bid you a lovely summer holiday. Whatever you do, please stay safe, do not take any unnecessary risks, be kind to yourself and those you socialise with, be safe online as well as in the real world. Get rested, ready to face the challenges and rewards of Year 9. See you in September. Stay safe.

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



## Dear Year 9 Parents/Carers and Students

Well Year 9, what a year it has been, full of laughs, dreams, hopes and aspirations. It feels like it was only yesterday that we started the journey of secondary school together, and now we're about to embark on the journey that is KS4. I cannot tell you how proud I am of each and every one of you for the growth you have made since year 7, you are all becoming incredible young adults. Starting as a tutor for 7B, then becoming your Assistant Head of Year for year 8 and 9, I cannot tell you how much of an absolute honour it is to be appointed as your Head of Year now as we take this journey through KS4 together.

I would like to welcome and extend a massive congratulations to Mrs Turner as she joins our team as your new Assistant Head of Year. Mrs Turner brings a wealth of experience and understanding to our year group and it is fantastic to have her join us.

Our annual awards celebration was a smash hit, it is always amazing to see you get recognised for all of your tremendous achievements. Remember that if you aren't recognised with these awards that the effort you display doesn't go unnoticed. To the recipients, congratulations! Please see the list of winners below.

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Effort</i>	<i>Progress</i>	<i>Special Awards</i>	
English	Lauren M	Hammad M	Head of Year Award	Daisy L
Maths	Darren M	Jeremiasz H	Sportsperson of the Year	Mikey M
Science	Poppy H-C	Nazar Z	Anti-Bullying Ambassadors	Danielle S
Dance	Daisy L	Chloe T		Bryony T
Drama	Zoe P	Chloe F		
Art	Bryony T	Mia F		
Design Technology	Jack P	Chloe G		
Food	Pippa G	Lily M		
Textiles	Zebi S	Charles F		
Geography	Lewis C	Mylie F		
History	Connor S	Elliot C		
ICT/Computing	Oliver B	Alexandra B-C		
French	Ruby H	Aleksej K		
Spanish	Callum B	Benjamin A		
Music	Daisy P	Lexi S		
PE	Caitlin M	John R		
PSHE	Joanna A C	Macy L		
Religious Studies	Lily H	Piotr A		

I would like to also extend a massive congratulations to our successful prefect applicants; Callum B, Caitlin M, Lexi S, Zoe P, Isabella QG, Daisy L, Daisy P, Lauren M, Oliver B, Zyra M, Ashton S, Madiha C, Maisie B, India L, Aleksandra K, Tabitha M, Faith D, Alice H, Annie B, Joseph R, Grace S, Riley P. I think it is safe to say this is the biggest selection of prefects in a number of years, so a huge well done to you all!

As well as these successes in school, we have also seen success in our year group outside of school. Megan C and her Rampage cheer team became triple crown winners with 3 National Championships this season. A massive congratulations from all of us Megan!

Grace S has also seen success outside of school. She recently received a bronze medal in the U15s 300m event at the English Schools competition. Grace previously set a new county record of 40.5s to qualify for this event. A massive congratulations from all of us Grace!

**9B** - What an amazing journey it has been. I am so incredibly proud of each and every one of you for the amount of progress you have made, especially in the last year. I am incredibly sad to be leaving you but I am confident you will continue to make me proud! I am truly so grateful to have had the best tutor group for the past two years and cherish the memories we have created together. I will miss you all and will never forget how INCREDIBLE you all are! I hope you have a relaxing holiday in preparation for year 10! Make sure to stay safe and enjoy! Love always, **Miss Meacock**

**9R** - I know you guys were disappointed at losing Miss Butler as your tutor, but I will say, you have all shown amazing adaptability and a friendliness towards me that has made filling big shoes so much easier. You are an absolute awesome bunch and it has been my pleasure to share Year 9 with you. Remember, health is wealth and family is everything, so have a brilliantly safe and active holiday period with those that love you the most! Until next year, love always, **Miss White**

**9A** - Dear 9Amazing tutees, I am taking this opportunity to thank you for all the hard work you put in this year. You are truly amazing as throughout the year you have been respectful, responsible and aiming high. It's been a pleasure to work with you. As always I am proud of you. Have a lovely summer holiday! - **Mrs Gujarathi**

**9K** - It has been an absolute pleasure being your tutor, and I am truly grateful for the opportunity to guide and support you throughout the year. You have all shown incredible dedication, enthusiasm, and growth in your studies, and I couldn't be prouder of each and every one of you. Your hard work, resilience, and willingness to learn have made our tutor sessions engaging and meaningful. As you embark on your well-deserved holidays, I encourage you to take time to relax, recharge, and spend quality moments with your loved ones. Use this time to reflect on the progress you have made this year and set new goals for the upcoming year. Thank you for an incredible year. I am grateful for the privilege of being your tutor, and I am excited to see all the amazing things you will achieve in the future. Enjoy your holidays to the fullest, and I look forward to seeing you refreshed and ready for another fantastic year ahead! - **Miss Suessmann**

**9E** - What a term it has been! Taking over from Mrs Fotheringham was always going to be a difficult task as I know that you had all built strong relationships with her, but I hope you have enjoyed being in my tutor group as much as I have enjoyed having you and getting to know you all. It has been lovely seeing your faces at line up every morning and helping you complete Year 9 and be ready to start Year 10 in September! I hope you all have a fantastic summer, get lots of rest, make some memories and stay safe - I look forward to hearing all about your experiences in September! - **Miss Anderson**

**9N** - Since the first time I met you I have been incredibly impressed at how driven, kind and responsible you all are. I feel incredibly lucky to have spent the last 2 years getting to know you as your form tutor, it brings me so much joy to know that you will spread your fantastic attitudes and learning habits to other members of the school community. I look forward to seeing and hearing all of your successes in the future, have a fantastic summer! - **Miss Thomas**

**9H** - It has been an absolute pleasure being your tutor for the past 2 years! To see you all develop has been so impressive and watching you tackle new challenges has been a joy to be part of. I know it's not ideal that I am leaving you all, but I know you will carry on being the kind, upbeat, and supportive people you have grown into. Keep on being the wonderful people you are and I wish you all the best for next year and beyond! - **Miss Shearman**

Finally, I would like to wish each and every one of our families a fantastic summer holiday, everyone one of you deserves it. Please be safe and responsible in everything you do this holiday, whether you are staying local or going abroad. I for one will be continuing to plan my upcoming wedding in April. I can't wait to see you all again ready for our KS4 journey in September, as always be the best version of yourself you can be. Have a fantastic holiday!

*Mr Collins, Head of Year 9 and the Year 9 Team*



## Dear Year 10 Parents/Carers and Students

What a year..

This term has been an absolute whirlwind with a lot of new experiences, hard work and incredible resilience. This half term Year 10 embarked on their first ever set of PPEs (mocks); this was a high pressure few weeks of what felt like endless hours of exams, more line ups than we could count and the feeling of pure joy and pride when it was all over.

The external team of invigilators could not sing their praises more if they tried, I quote “one of the best groups we’ve ever seen”. I am so proud of every single member of our Year 10 family for the way they have conducted themselves during this time, I really could not have asked for more from them.

At our annual awards celebration assemblies it was, as always, fabulous to see our students get recognised for all of their wonderful achievements. Here are the winners:

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Effort</i>	<i>Progress</i>	<i>Special Awards</i>	
English	Rohita	Chanel	Head of Year Award	Rohita V
Maths	Daisy	Olivia	Sportsperson of the Year	Hashem B
Combined Science	Georgia	James	Prefect Award	Cailtyn I
Separate Science	Alexandra	Zachary		
Business Studies	Grace	Francesco		
Dance	Emily	Danielle		
Drama	Amber	Liam		
Art	Nadine	Mindy Wei		
Design Technology	Scarlett	Kacper		
Hospitality & Catering	Olivia	Hoi Yee		
Photography	Sarah	Jack		
Economics	Moses	Ella-Ann		
Geography	Joshua	Iulian		
History	Tiana	Daniel		
Health & Social Care	Rebecca	Beatrice		
ICT Computing	Finn	Adam		
ICT OCR National	Isheunesu	Ellie-May		
Media Studies	Aliza	Brooke		
French	Abigail	Shreya		
Spanish	Caitlyn	Ciara		
Music	Oakley	Scarlett		
PSHE	Nevaeh	Daniela		
Religious Studies	Jaida	Jaden		
Sport Science CNAT	Sophie	Alisha		
Sports Leader	Fely	Paige		

Now we look on to the final chapter of our main school life, I have the following final messages from our year team before we move into turbo tutors next year:

To the parents and carers of my wonderful **10B** tutees, thank you for all the support you have given to them throughout Year 10 and in preparation for their PPE exams. Each and every one of your children took a mature attitude and gave their best in each exam they sat. I am so proud of them for taking responsibility for their learning and aiming high with their responses to exam questions. Sadly, I will no longer be their tutor when they move into Year 11 in September. They will be on rotation with their new Turbo Tutors. I've been with 10B since Year 8 and I've watched them all blossom into the wonderful, funny, intelligent young people they are today. I will forever have their back here at Brakenhale and will be their biggest supporter (even if it is on the side-lines



next year). I wish you and my fabulous 10B tutees, a wonderful summer break! With warmest regards, **Mrs Bradley**

**10R**, although I've only been your tutor since January, I have had an incredible time getting to know each and every one of you. Your hard work and efforts have truly impressed me. You are a great group, filled with talent, creativity, and resilience. It's been an absolute pleasure being a part of your journey so far, and I am excited to continue supporting you as your assistant head of year in Year 11. Together, we'll make it an unforgettable experience! **Miss Montgomery**

**10A**, you have taught me so much over this past year! I have seen each of you grow and improve and I am honestly so proud of you. You have all made me laugh, made me smile and some even made me cry (happy tears of course), I really will miss seeing you every morning and moaning at you all! You should all be so proud of yourselves and I can't wait to see what you achieve next year! Although I won't be your tutor, you know where to find me if you need me! All the best, **Ms Coxhead**

To all of **10A**, it was an absolute pleasure being your form tutor. You were my first form and I will remember you forever. We got each other through a good 3 odd years and I know you're going to be amazing Year 11s. I will be there to support you through the remainder of your Brakenhale journey and wish you a restful summer break, ready to start the final leg of your GCSEs! **Mrs Malik**

Hey **10K**, I have been so privileged to be your tutor from Year 8 till now, I have been able to see you grow as amazing human beings and follow your highs and lows along the way, as a group you have shown huge improvements from Year 8 and are now one of if not the best tutor groups in the school, this is shown through your achievements and your attendance, being of one the highest. You are going to be so successful in your futures, I just know it, never forget that there will be failures and disappointments along the way, but don't see this as failure, use it to make you stronger and persevere! I cannot wait to see you finish your exams as successful Year 11s and see you celebrating that success with your Year 11 Prom, so next year enjoy every moment of the last year of school as this is your time to shine. **Mr Bissitt**

It was such a pleasure to start my first year with **10E** as my tutor, you are all truly fab! It has been a real pleasure watching you grow into your individual selves. I will be sorry to see you go to Turbo Tutors but I can't wait to celebrate your Year 11 success at Prom! Take care everyone in 10E, my studio door will always be open to you (at break and lunch only – haha)! **Miss Townsend** :D

The mighty **10N**! Over the past 2 years we have come together to form what I think is a great bond! In life there are winners and there are losers...every single one of you is a winner and I know that you will go on to great things! You have done so well adapting to Key Stage 4 life, gearing up to your GCSEs and growing into fine young adults. Please continue to grow and develop into the very best versions of yourselves. Life, believe it or not, is actually very short; so make the most of every day, be kind to the people you know and the people you will meet, work hard and achieve the goals you set. It has been a real privilege to be your tutor and get to know you. Although I will not be around next year, I feel that you now know what it's like to be in our tutor and get the most out of your day. So start the day in a positive way, eat breakfast, drink plenty, get lots of sleep to recharge, smile and have fun, listen to your teachers, take their advice and reach for the moon... if you don't quite get there, you will fall amongst the stars! Here is to Year 11 and wishing you the very best for your futures! Lots of love and best wishes to you all! **Mr Potter**

**10H** I am filled with immense pride and joy reflecting upon the incredible journey we have shared over the past four years. Today, I want to express my deepest appreciation for each and every one of you. Throughout this time, you have consistently exhibited not only exceptional academic progress but also outstanding character and behaviour. I am truly grateful for the exemplary conduct you have demonstrated. Your kindness, respect, and consideration for one another have created an inclusive and supportive learning environment. **Mr Vega**

Dear Year 10, it has been an absolute pleasure working with you as your Assistant Head of Year this past year and for some even longer as your tutor before this. Every day each and every one of you have astounded me with the commitment, hard work and resilience that you have shown throughout the year. I am especially proud of how well you all took to the PPEs this term. Whilst I may be moving into a different year group, I will still be eagerly watching from the side-lines as you embark on the final GCSE chapter and head towards your own prom. Keep being awesome and enjoy a well-deserved restful summer! With best wishes, **Mrs Turner**





It has been a fantastic year. Mrs Turner, myself and Mr George have loved the privilege of being part of the journey and I know Miss Montgomery is excited to take the baton from Mrs Turner and continue her hard work as our Assistant Head of Year.



Now go and have a well-deserved break, enjoy the sunshine (I hope) and we will all see you ready for the final push in September.

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

### Goodbye Year 11

As the sun sets on another amazing chapter, it's time to bid our incredible Year 11 students farewell. You've conquered exams, explored new subjects, and made memories that will last a lifetime. Now it's time to spread your wings and soar into the next adventure, whatever that holds.

To the class of 2023, you are a force to be reckoned with, and we can't wait to see the incredible impact you'll make on the world. Continue to Aim High, Be Kind and Take Responsibility, and never forget that you have the power to create positive change.

Congratulations on reaching this milestone! May your journey ahead be filled with adventure, success, and endless possibilities. We look forward to welcoming many of you on board to start a new and exciting chapter into our Sixth Form...



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

## Dear Sixth Form Parents/Carers and Students

It’s hard to believe that a whole academic year has come to an end. It feels like just yesterday that we were welcoming you into the Sixth Form and going over expectations. I said at the beginning of the year that the next 10 months would go by fast, and they certainly have! You are now officially halfway through your academic journey at Sixth Form.

Success looks like different things to different people because we all have varying starting points. That said, you have all succeeded in a number of ways. We were able to celebrate the work ethic and academic performance of various students this past Thursday at the rewards assembly. Teachers nominated students who have stood out for their resilience, academic progression, and commitment to their studies. It has made the Sixth Form team so proud to see the accomplishments that students have been making. Consistently doing the right thing, day-in and day-out, establishes a strong foundation for success and is always noticed by your teachers. The awards ceremony was a reflection of this – there were 25 academic awards given out!



<i>Subject</i>	<i>Effort &amp; Progress</i>	<i>Special Awards</i>	
Art	Madison	Head of Year Award	Tayla S
Biology	Nikita		
Chemistry	Brian		
Physics	Lazar		
Business Studies	Nathan		
Computing	Jack		
Criminology	Tayla		
English Literature	Sandia		
French	Arwa		
Geography	Edward		
Health & Social Care	Lillie		
History	Callum-James		
ICT	Sam		
Maths	Ewan		
Further Maths	Joshua		
Photography	Millie		
PSHE	Rory		
Psychology	Salina		
Religious Studies	Patty		

Remember, even if you did not receive an award, this does not mean that you have not been successful. Many of you should recognize that this year you have accomplished some, or maybe all of the following:

- Completed your first year of Sixth Form
- Overcome anxieties
- Overcome individual challenges and difficulties
- Sat formal examinations in your subjects
- Improved your punctuality
- Improved your organisation
- Made new friends or expanded your friendship group

On the topic of getting it right, we also want to recognise the effort and diligence that Year 12s have demonstrated during their PPEs. This was a rigorous process and one that will help to prepare them for their



final exams in May 2024. Students must ensure that they process their feedback and use the holidays to fill any knowledge gaps that have arisen.

**Looking Ahead: UCAS and Apprenticeships**

Over the past 7 weeks students have begun the process of University and Apprenticeship applications. This has been an opportunity for students to reflect on where they see themselves in the future and to plan accordingly. Four guidance presentations have been given to students, including a Q&A session with a former Year 13 student. Tutors have also been brilliant at helping Year 12s in the beginning stages of their personal statement writing. The deadline for Medicine and Oxbridge students is Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October for all other programs. We encourage students to be working on these during their break so that the Sixth Form team have the opportunity to review them and support students to make any amendments necessary before the final submission. Quicker submissions mean quicker decisions about admissions being made.

**Transition Day**

On the topic of looking ahead, we are looking forward to welcoming our new cohort of Year 12s in September. Year 11 were given the chance to experience what Brakenhale Sixth Form is like during their 2-day Transition on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June. It was so lovely to see how engaged students were in lessons and how eager everyone was to get involved. For our team building activity, we ventured to Thorpe Park where teachers and students tested their levels of bravery while enjoying the fast-paced rides. A special shout-out to Miss Lawry for organising the event!



**Prom**

Year 13 Prom took place on Wednesday 28th June at the Hilton St. Anne's Manor in Wokingham. It was a night of glitz and glamour. Students danced, laughed, and made their final Sixth Form memories with their peers. We want to thank Miss Wilhelmy who was the photographer for the evening. We have attached some photos to give you a snapshot of the event.



**A-Level Results Day: 17th August**

The exams team have been in touch with information regarding Results Day. A reminder that the school will be open from 9am-12pm and the Sixth Form team will be available to share results and support students with any questions you have about your next steps. We look forward to celebrating with you! This is the moment you are able to see all your hard work pay off as your dreams become a reality.



**Next term**

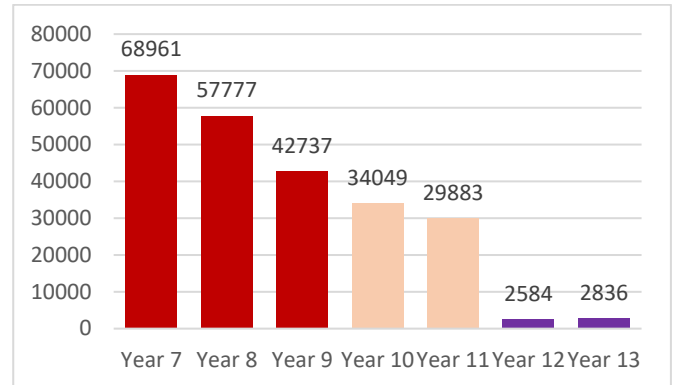
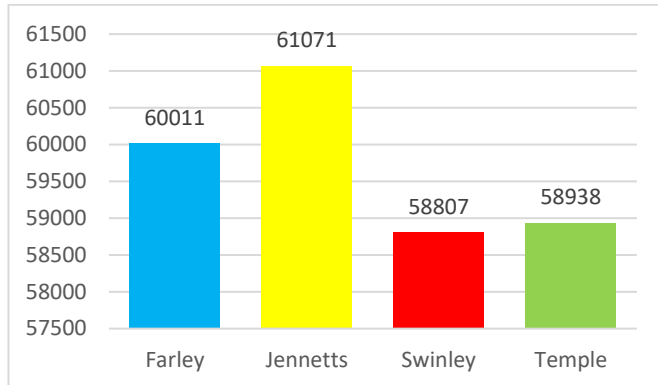
The first day back for students is Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September. All students in Year 12 and 13 are required to be up in Study from 8.30am ready for Tutor time at 8.40am.

Have a lovely summer. Relax, recharge, and take time to enjoy the sunshine. We look forward to welcoming you back for the next academic year.

*The Sixth Form Team: Ms Manlay, Head of Sixth Form; Ms Loj and Mrs Lawry, Heads of Year*

## School Houses and Housepoints

Pastoral Team



## School Dining Hall

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

The School Dining Hall is open daily for all students and sample menus are available on our website. 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.



## 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 electronic 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 and 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 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 to 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](mailto: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.

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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](http://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, rug 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!**



Please visit our website for more details:  
<https://brakenhale.co.uk/about/vacancies/>



## Action for Happiness

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

Let's take action to be Happier and Kinder Together - **Jump Back Up July**. Let's find ways to bounce back!

<https://actionforhappiness.org/>

Jump Back Up July 2023

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

1 Take a small step to help overcome a problem or worry	2 Adopt a growth mindset. Change "I can't" into "I can't...yet"	3 Be willing to ask for help when you need it	4 Find something to look forward to today	5 Get the basics right: eat well, exercise and go to bed on time	6 Pause, breathe and feel your feet firmly on the ground	7 Shift your mood by doing something you really enjoy
8 Avoid saying "must" or "should" to yourself today	9 Put a problem in perspective by seeing the bigger picture	10 Reach out to someone you trust and share your feelings with them	11 Look for something positive in a difficult situation	12 Write your worries down and save them for a specific 'worry time'	13 Challenge negative thoughts. Find an alternative interpretation	14 Get outside and move to help clear your head
15 Set yourself an achievable goal and take the first step	16 Find fun ways to distract yourself from unhelpful thoughts	17 Use one of your strengths to overcome a challenge today	18 Let go of the small stuff and focus on the things that matter	19 If you can't change it, change the way you think about it	20 When things go wrong, pause and be kind to yourself	21 Identify what helped you get through a tough time in your life
22 Find 3 things you feel hopeful about and write them down	23 Remember that all feelings and situations pass in time	24 Choose to see something good about what has gone wrong	25 Notice when you are feeling judgmental and be kind instead	26 Catch yourself over-reacting and take a deep breath	27 Write down 3 things you're grateful for (even if today was hard)	28 Think about what you can learn from a recent problem
29 Be a realistic optimist. Focus on what could go right	30 Reach out to a friend, family member or colleague for support	31 Remember we all struggle at times - it's part of being human				

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together





## Term Dates 2023/24

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

### Term Dates 2023-24

#### AUTUMN TERM 2023

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> and Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September Inset Days

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023

*Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> – Years 7, 11, 12 and 13 only - Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> – All Students*

*Autumn Half Term - Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023*

Christmas Holiday: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December to Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024

#### SPRING TERM 2024

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January Inset Day

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

*Spring Half Term - Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024*

Spring Holiday: Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024

*(Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March, Easter Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April)*

#### SUMMER TERM 2024

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April Inset Day

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

*Summer Half Term - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024*

*(May Bank Holidays Monday 6<sup>th</sup> and Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May)*

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 Inset Days

Summer Holiday: Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024

**INSET Days**      Friday 1<sup>st</sup> and Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
 Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024  
 Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
 Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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*