

Brakenhale School

Year 9 News



Friday 5th January 2018

Dear Year 9 Students

Welcome back to the second term of Year 9. We hope you have had an enjoyable and relaxing break, but it is now again time to face into an academically challenging and busy term, by the end of which you will be aware of your options for GCSE. In order to do this, there will be two important information sessions – one for you during P4 on Wednesday 25th January (which would usually be your PSHE lesson) and the second is Options evening for you and your parents which will take place on Thursday 1st February. Now, more than ever, it is important to be giving your utmost attention to your lessons as they becoming increasingly aimed towards preparation for the GCSEs.

Assemblies:

Yesterday morning in the Main Hall, you heard Ms Coley's New Term Assembly. She spoke of accepting change in a positive way; changes which may have affected you since your return to school on Wednesday such as new teachers and new classes for some of you. There will also be a number of House Point certificates awarded over the coming term and the school will have an inspirational quotation to inspire us each week. This week's quotation is "**Be an opener of doors**" by **Ralph Waldo Emerson**, which means that you should not ever say no to new challenges because of fear of what you are leaving behind. Instead, you should embrace change, as often it will lead to better opportunities for you. Be courageous and see what is through the other side!

Immunisations:

Year 9 Immunisations will take place this Monday coming (8th January) in the sixth form area from 9.30am until 1:00pm. You will be collected from your lesson by a staff member when it is your turn. There is still a small number of students who have not returned their forms – this weekend is your last chance to get these filled out so you can bring them on Monday.

Attendance:

School attendance for the first term finished on 95.3%. Year 9 also made it past the national average – 95.1%. This was a great achievement and we should now work together this term to increase it even further. If students achieve 100% attendance from January to the Easter break they will be entered in to a draw to win cinema vouchers. There is now a space at the front of your planners that will show you your attendance at Easter if you do not miss any days between now and then.

Uniform and Equipment:

As a year group, we are great when it comes to the presentation of our uniform and the fullness of our pencil cases. Do not let these standards slip. Ensure that any equipment you are missing is replenished and you are not letting any small discrepancies creep into your uniform – this means no coloured nail varnish, rings, necklaces, white socks, trainers or hoodies. Girls you also should not be wearing too much make-up.

Brakenhale School, Rectory Lane, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 7BA
01344 423041 ~ mainreception@brakenhale.co.uk ~ www.brakenhale.co.uk

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Reading in Tutor:

From next Monday onwards there will be an exciting new reading programme happening in AM Tutor times on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Each tutor group will be given a set of books and your tutor will read this book aloud to you for 15 minutes each morning. This is a great opportunity to learn about new places and cultures, as well as improving your vocabulary, which will lead to you gaining better grades in all of your GCSEs.

Year 9 exam results:

On the last day of term, during the extended tutor time, Year 9 were in the Main Hall receiving their exam results from staff in a similar way to which they would collect their real exam results. Students were allowed to discuss their results with their friends and speak to staff that were there. The majority of you were very pleased with your results and went home happy. A handful of you spoke to me about your results not quite being what you expected. Mr Hicks reiterated to all that as long as you tried your best, then we would be proud. If you did not try your best then this is an opportunity to see how much progress you need to make to ensure you leave school in July 2020 pleased with your results.

A couple of parents have contacted the school about results but we would like to advise that they can always email your subject teachers direct about subjects they want specific information about. Staff emails are always their first initial and surname eg dhicks@brakenhale.co.uk. All initials and surnames are printed on your timetable and you were all given a new copy yesterday.

We have also gathered a list of useful websites that you may want to use in order to start building in extra subject revision at home.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Useful Websites</u>
Maths	Times tables - no internet access required https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle/ www.mymaths.co.uk
English	Reading ten minutes per day - no internet access required http://www.madlibs.com/ http://www.storyboardthat.com/ https://portal.bedrocklearning.org/
Science	www.kerboodle.com https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zng4d2p http://www.educationquizzes.com/ks3/science/
History	https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zk26n39 https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/
Geography	https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrw76sg https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/
Spanish	https://www.duolingo.com/ https://www.memrise.com/

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- French** <https://www.duolingo.com/>
<https://www.memrise.com/>
- Music** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zmsvr82>
<https://www.musictheory.net/exercises>
- Art** www.studentartguides.com
Pinterest - identify things you are interested in
- ICT** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z8mtsbk>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/guides/zts8d2p/revision>
- Technology** <http://www.technologystudent.com/>

As above, if you have further questions about specific subjects, please don't hesitate to email your teacher. However, as always, we are here to speak to or answer any questions should you want to get in touch with us.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes



Miss D O'Brien
Assistant Head of Year 9
dobrien@brakenhale.co.uk



Mr D Hicks
Head of Year 9
dhicks@brakenhale.co.uk

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		Tutor	Notices
Monday		Uniform Check Tools for Learning Reading Time	
Tuesday		Uniform Check Tools for Learning Reading Time	
Wednesday		Uniform Check Tools for Learning Main Hall Assembly	
Thursday		Uniform Check Tools for Learning Reading Time	
Friday		Uniform Check Tools for Learning Sports Hall Assembly	

Lunch-time and Period 6 detentions

Lunch-time detentions for lateness and uniform in G01

Period 6 HOY office with Mr Hicks and Miss O'Brien from after school till 3:30pm

If you do not attend your lunchtime detention, there will be a message sent out via schoolcomms to your parents/carers and you will be expected to be in period 6 the following day.

Key Dates:

Date	
W/C 31 st January	Year 9 Book Look Week
1 st February	Year 9 Options Evening
22 nd February	Year 9 Parents Evening

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