

Brakenhale School

Year 9 News



Friday 2nd February 2018

Dear Year 9 Students

Time is flying by – this time next week you will be on your holidays again – February half term is within touching distance.

This was a busy week for Brakenhale and for Year 9. Firstly, when you arrived on Monday you were told that 'Standards Fortnight' had begun. This is an initiative which focuses on high expectations across the school with large numbers of golden slips being handed out to those of you who have been caught displaying positive behaviour across the school and in your lessons. Of course, this is the case the vast majority of the time, but these two weeks are designed to draw attention to this and show you that staff recognise what a positive contribution you are to our school. In addition to this, there have also been a number of peach slips handed out to those who have forgotten equipment, wore their uniform incorrectly, interrupted lessons, used inappropriate language as well as general misconduct around the school site. Over the past number of days, the numbers of golden slips have been much higher than the peach slips which shows us all the good things you have been doing. This will continue into next week so take the time to find opportunities to earn yourself more golden slips and ensure you have replenished any lost equipment and your uniform is perfectly presented for school on Monday morning!

Last night was your Options evening, thank you to all of you who attended this very important event. Mr Gibson gave you more detail about what to expect regarding the options process and you also had an opportunity to speak to Heads of Department about their subjects at GCSE. You now have until March 1st to make your final decision – ensure you read the booklet carefully and consider what you want to do after school before you decide. There is an opportunity for your parents to book an appointment in the first week after term with Mr Gibson, Mr Hicks or myself to discuss any issues and you will also have time to speak to your tutor in the next PSHE lesson (which will be the first week back after half term – Wednesday Period 5). Finally again another reminder that Year 9 parents evening will be on 22nd February at 4pm so again your parents will be able to speak to your teachers about your progress at that stage which may influence your decision.

Attendance feeds into your options process also as subjects are now beginning to focus on more difficult topics in preparation for GCSE. For those of you who have missed days you know that you can feel a little bit lost in lessons when you return as you have missed what the class was studying on the previous day. Our Year 9 attendance to date is 94.4% which we would like to see rise over the following weeks as you take into consideration which subjects you want to choose and thereafter as you prepare for the next two school years.

Have a relaxing weekend, see you all on Monday.

Best wishes

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High Expectations and Challenge for All

Please share with us your views on what you like about the school and what we can do to improve by clicking on the links below:



Fab & Drab

[Fab](#)

[Drab](#)

Please let us have your nominations for any members of staff who have exceeded your expectations this week:



**Staff Member
of the Week**

[Staff Member of the Week](#)

Paper copies of nominations can be dropped into the boxes in main reception

		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 lunch-time detention, there will be a message sent out to Parents/Carers via schoolcomms to you child will be expected to be in period 6 the following day.

Key Dates:

Date	
7 th / 8 th February	Whole School Show
9 th February	School finishes at 3.05 for half term
22 nd February	Year 9 Parents Evening

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