

# Brakenhale School

## Sixth Form News

14<sup>th</sup> December 2017



### End of Term News

Well we have finally reached the end of the longest term in the school year. The past months have been very busy. In the last two weeks, we have had two visitors; firstly, on last Friday, Dr Philip Lee, MP for Bracknell, came to discuss his role and the issues of the day with the Sixth Form. It was great to see the students preparing a wide range of questions for Dr Lee. He was impressed with the issues raised and the clear interest that the students had in the wider world. I have attached the list of questions we submitted to Dr Lee to show how involved the students were. They were respectful and interested in his answers even when they didn't completely agree with them!

On Wednesday, we had a visit from Peter Rawlings who is expert on Post -18 options. He talked to the year 12 students about looking forward and preparing themselves for the competitive application processes for both University and high quality apprenticeships. I will make his useful guide to getting into top universities, available to the students, as this provides information on great extra-curricular activities and reading that students could be undertaking. I again recommend that parents and students look at the opportunities which are at the bottom of the newsletter each week and seriously consider applications for the various programmes.

### Term in recap

It has been a busy term with some notable highlights. In October the Year 13 students attended the 'What Careers' event at Kensington Olympia. It was great to see students having the chance to discuss their options with a wide range of employers and universities. In November we had the annual Safe Drive Stay Alive event for year 12 which, whilst hard hitting, is always useful for the students to hear. Also in November, we had the Parliament Trip for the students as well as our Sixth Form Open Evening. It has been great to see so many Sixth Form Students helping out at whole school events and supporting the lower school students in their learning. We have also had numerous parent events this term and this will continue next term with the Year 12 Parents evening in February.

### Some Reminders

We have the PPEs for both Year 12 and Year 13 students coming after the holiday season from Monday January 8<sup>th</sup>. Staff have set work and also tools to enable students to focus their revision on areas which need improvement. I would encourage parents to support their students to find time to undertake revision during the busy Christmas period. I have attached a copy of the PPE timetable so that you are aware of when key exams are likely to fall. I've also attached a copy of our simple guide to improving revision through the use of marginal gains.

Finally....

I'd like to thank Mrs Isherwood who is leaving us this Christmas to spend more time with her young family. Mrs Isherwood has been an integral part of the Sixth Form team for 4 years and has also been a critical factor in the success of our vocational provision. I'm sure that I speak for all parents and students when I wish her the best for the future and ask her not to be a stranger.

Finally, I'd like to wish everyone a restful and enjoyable break, I am looking forward to the rest but also excited by the prospect of further success for our amazing young people in 2018.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely

Mr T Dale

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

**☎ 01344 423041 ~ ✉ [mainreception@brakenhale.co.uk](mailto:mainreception@brakenhale.co.uk) ~ 🌐 [www.brakenhale.co.uk](http://www.brakenhale.co.uk)**

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## Opportunities

**KPMG Apprentices** – Are looking for bright, motivated students from all backgrounds from across the UK. There are insight days to find out more, opportunities to combine study and work as well as fully-supported apprenticeship programmes, so there really is something for everyone. To learn more about KPMG and the career opportunities, visit their website: [www.kpmgcareers.co.uk/apprenticeships](http://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk/apprenticeships)

**Highways England** - [Apprenticeship Opportunities](#) click to start your journey to careers success

**Vodafone Apprenticeships** are Open Now – Click [here](#) to register your interest

**The Nestle Academy** - You know Nestlé. But you may not know about the delicious range of Apprenticeships they offer. Applications are now open for the following Apprenticeships.

### **Level 4 CIMA Finance Higher Apprenticeship**

This two-year programme is designed to expose you to a variety of roles whilst you start working towards a CIMA Diploma in Business Accounting, studying on day release at a local training centre. Apply in Gatwick or York – [Here](#)

### **Level 6 Commercial Management Degree Apprenticeship**

This three-year programme will see you study for a BA (Hons.) Degree in Professional Business Practice at Sheffield Hallam University, combined with placements in a number of Nestlé's business functions. Apply in Gatwick – [Here](#) or Apply in York - [Here](#)

Do you Love Math's? Then this is could be for you!

Institute and Faculty of Actuaries – Actuaries are highly regarded professionals; actuaries are problem solvers and strategic thinkers with a deep understanding of financial systems. Click [here](#) to find out more

Royal Veterinary College – Application and Work Experience Form deadline for Veterinary medicine is 15<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm – click [here](#) to find out more

Social Mobility Foundation – APP Residential Applications for the 2018 programme are open now. APP Residential support high achieving students from low income backgrounds across the UK. <http://www.socialmobility.org.uk/programmes/app-residential>

University of London is offering students a Taster Course Programme - The Taster Course Programme provides year 12 sixth form students with a taste of what life at a university in London is like. Through your chosen taster course you will experience the different teaching methods used by university academics and gain an insight into the additional facilities available, whilst meeting students from across the UK <http://www.london.ac.uk/tasters>

## Further Links

**Engineers** is a very good resource if you are considering reading Engineering at university or as a career can be found at; <http://www.tomorrowsengineers.org.uk/>

**The Nuffield Research Placement Scheme** can offer Year 12 students exciting placements in industry and at local organisations, undertaking a 4-week placement. Applications can be made at <https://www.nuffieldresearchplacements.org/>

**Classical Music** could help some students with their revision - there are lots of playlists on Spotify and Youtube. Please see link which you may find useful. <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLLgieA9QBTMJ5bqXxGp9d89DF6MZzTUK0>

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**The BBC** offers an amazing 2 year apprenticeship to train to be a Digital Journalist with the BBC - with a diploma in journalism at the end of it - Apprentices will learn how to create great content and programmes for TV, Radio, Digital Online <http://www.bbc.co.uk/corporate2/careers/trainee-schemes-and-apprenticeships/journalism/dja>

**British Airways** offer a combination of working on real life projects in head office and undertaking formal training, apprentices will acquire the skills and experience necessary to oversee complex projects to completion. <https://jobs.ba.com/jobs/apprentice/>

**BCE** is a fast paced and exciting UK media industry students need a course that will equip them with the skills and knowledge to compete with the UK's brightest innovators and creatives. <http://www.bigcreative.education/bcap-courses/bcap-media/>

**Thameslink** are committed to helping local young people get into the engineering and transport industry through the Thameslink Programme and are working closely with Southwark Council and our contractors to deliver a number of apprenticeships and work placements. <http://www.thameslinkprogramme.co.uk/our-people>

**BT Software** roles involve working to design, develop, implement, test and support software applications that help BT to run its networks and systems. This could include anything from working on web applications, apps for smart phones and tablets or on BT's internal systems. <http://www.btplc.com/Careercentre/earlycareers/apprentices/index.htm>

**Vodafone** have a number of apprenticeships available for further information go to <https://www.vodafone.co.uk/careers/apprentices/>

## Key Dates

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December

Monday 18<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December to Tuesday  
2<sup>nd</sup> January

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January

**Christmas Jumper Day**

**Inset days, no school for students**

**Christmas Holidays**

**Start of Spring Term**

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