

Brakenhale School

Year 8 News



21st September 2018

Dear Year 8 Students

What a great start to year 8! On the first day of term, Ms Coley addressed the year group and encouraged us to be more determined, to find resilience and to remember that we learn when we fail. Last week Mr Gibson expounded on the determination of David Beckham to change the nation's view of him from most hated person to the nation's hero. We can all make personal choices, which help develop us into fine young adults. Each week, look on our website for our quote of the week, which is to instil that passion to learn so that we can achieve, break through limits and redefine ourselves. #TeamBrakenhale is all about working in the team of the year group, house as well as the entire school and wider local community.

We are pleased that so many of you are already continuing to build on the foundation of year 7. This has been evidenced by the house points being awarded for participation in classes; first to follow non-negotiables; and homework completed showing extra flair and commitment for excellence. Which house will raise the cup at the end of the year? Evidence shows that the students who progress the most are the students with attendance over 95% with regular homework completed. Last year the year group achieved more than 95% and we encourage you to be a high attender to increase your learning potential.

This week we have had a second fire drill of this academic year, showing that we have learnt our new routes around school (due to the building) as well as our new location in the courts. Year 8 were congratulated by Ms Coley for standing so quietly, patiently whilst other year groups were led in. Well done.

Next week, Year 8 will commence our reading project for which all tutor groups will read for three mornings a week, aiming to complete a book a term. The books have been selected by the English department working in partnership with the Greenshaw Trust. Year groups 7-10 are also following this initiative showing there is no cut off age for reading. It is a great opportunity for sharing the passion of reading and research shows that those young people who do read for 30 minutes a day can make more rapid academic progress than non-readers.

Extra-curricular clubs have started and you still have time to join in the fun. Sport clubs this half term for year 8 include: rugby, girls' rugby, netball, hockey, badminton, handball and trampolining. Other clubs are newspaper club, Esteem, French, camera club, Dungeons and Dragons. Look on your tutor board for times and venues. Homework club is in the LRC every day until 4pm when students have access to computers and there is also a member of teaching staff present to assist students. Students are reminded that all maths homework is being done on-line via diagnosticquestions.com so if on-line access is an issue or you need additional maths help, remember to come to the LRC between 8am and 4pm. All homework reminders should be on the on-line Showmyhomework application. We no longer expect students to record homework in their planners, but it is still a useful tool to communicate a message to your tutor. It is also used by staff to record detentions and sanctions.

To promote good attendance please ensure the following:

- Arrange medical and dental appointments out of school hours.
- Ensure students get a good night sleep, a minimum of 9 hours sleep at 12-13 years old.
- Eat a healthy diet
- Limit access electronic devices later in the evening.

If your child is ill for any reason please contact the attendance officer, by

Phone: 01344 465050

email: attendance@brakenhale.co.uk

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

☎ 01344 423041 ~ 📧 mainreception@brakenhale.co.uk ~ 🌐 www.brakenhale.co.uk

High Expectations and Challenge for All

If you have any issues or concerns please feel free to contact the school or the relevant staff listed below:

- Main reception: 01344 423041
- Deputy Headteacher: Mr Andrew Hartley ahartley@brakenhale.co.uk
- Head of Year 8: Mr Martyn Cooper mcooper@brakenhale.co.uk
- Assistant Head of Year 8: Mrs Selina Wilkins swilkins@brakenhale.co.uk
- SEN Co-ordinator: Ms Lisa Baveystock lbaveystock@brakenhale.co.uk
- EAL co-ordinator: Miss Izabella Cmok icmok@brakenhale.co.uk

You can always email your child's tutor with any concerns or questions you may have which are listed below:

8B Tutor: Mrs Carleen Masson cthomas@brakenhale.co.uk

8R Tutor: Mrs Linda Harbour lharbour@brakenhale.co.uk

8A Tutor: Mr Adam George ageorge@brakenhale.co.uk

8K Tutor: Mr Calvin Maye cmaye@brakenhale.co.uk

8E Tutor: Mrs Natalie Gibbons ngibbons@brakenhale.co.uk

8N Tutor: Mrs Fatima Peralta fperalta@brakenhale.co.uk

8H Tutor: Mr Mark Potter mpotter@brakenhale.co.uk

We are looking forward to continuing to working together, sharing our successes with you.

Kind regards



Mr M Cooper
Head of Year 8
mcooper@brakenhale.co.uk



Mrs S Wilkins
Assistant Head of Year 8
swilkins@brakenhale.co.uk

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