

Brakenhale School Sixth Form News

19th October 2018



What a fantastic start to the year we have had. I can truly say that I feel privileged to be able to come into work each day and work with the young people in our Sixth Form. At the start of the year we had evenings for 'University Applications Information' and 'Welcome to the Sixth Form', and if you attended either of those I thank you. I really feel as though we are building a community involving staff, parents, and students, and this is going to be key to us achieving what we want for the young adults in our care. We have also had Peter Rawlings come in to deliver a session on applying to universities and apprenticeships with a focus on personal statements for year 13, and this has clearly had an impact as the personal statements I am reading are excellent. For our year 12's (and a few year 13's) we have been out to London for a 'What Careers' event to look at next steps after the Sixth Form, and again, this went really well and the students approached this event with exactly the right mindset, gathering hundreds (well, maybe not hundreds) of prospectuses and information sheets for their next steps. We have also been fortunate enough to have Stuart Kingsley, a Senior Partner of one of the UK's leading wealth management companies, to come and talk to our sixth formers about managing finances, debt, loans, and all things banking. We feel it is really important that our students have the information required to make sensible choices surrounding money, and these sessions have gone really well. Additionally, we have had a team of professionals from Microsoft come in to interview our year 13's to develop their interview skills, and Microsoft were blown away by our students. They have offered additional time to come and work with some of our students as they were so impressed. Channel 4 have sent a production team to talk to our sixth formers about a documentary they are making, and the feedback that I received after they had spent time with our students was; 'what an amazing morning we had with your sixth formers. Bright, engaged, thoughtful, funny, wise - and that's just the half of it!'

On an individual level we have had lots of incredible achievements already. Keir has been starring as 'Tommo' in Michael Morpurgo's 'Private Peaceful' at South Hill Park. The Windsor Express called the production 'Stunning', and singled out Keir as Outstanding. Roxie is playing a part in the Lexicon celebrations performing on her Clarinet for the Queen as part of the Bracknell and Wokingham Concert band; She is one of only two soloists! Laura is currently representing Team GB for Team Gym at the European Championships in Portugal, and Jade has secured a place in the National Youth Dance Company England as one of only 19 female dancers from over 400 'auditionees' nationally. We also have Kiera and Jodie who are performing on stage as part of their performing arts school at Disney Land Florida over the half term! I know I will have missed out lots of different performers and achievers as well, and if I have, I apologise - please let me know, as it will only be because I wasn't aware! Alongside all of this we have some fantastic sports men and women representing different teams every week, and the academic achievements already have been fantastic. Every day I hear something new about students supporting in lessons for lower years, volunteering in care homes, bake sales to raise money for different charities, and working with young people in the area for things like Brownies and different youth groups. There are so many of our young people in this school who are doing such amazing things it is hard to keep up - what an incredible group of students we are fortunate enough to work with.

As I have already said, I feel incredibly proud of our Sixth Form, and if we can keep up this level of brilliance I know we will achieve amazing things over the next couple of years. Finally, I would like to say thank you to the parents and students of Brakenhale sixth form for all of your hard work and support. Have a great half term; you've earned it!

Kind regards

Mr J Duffy
Head of Sixth Form

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High Expectations and Challenge for All

Key Dates

Tuesday 6th November
Thursday 8th November
Wednesday 21st November

Safe Drive Stay Alive
Sixth Form Open Evening
Year 13 Parent Evening

Sixth Form Tutor's – September 2018

P16B – Chloe Keljarrett	ckeljarrett@brakenhale.co.uk
P16R – Beth Byers	Bbyers@brakenhale.co.uk
P16A – Helena Ioannidis	hioannidis@brakenhale.co.uk
P16K – Aisling Duddy	Aduddy@brakenhale.co.uk
P16E – Tracey Wilhelmy	twilhelmy@brakenhale.co.uk
P16N – Frederick Green Nickel	fgreennickel@brakenhale.co.uk

Sixth Form Team – September 2018

Head of Sixth Form – Mr Duffy	jduffy@brakenhale.co.uk
Assistant Head of Sixth Form – Mr Boucher	jboucher@brakenhale.co.uk
Deputy Headteacher – Mr Hartley	ahartley@brakenhale.co.uk
Sixth Form Administrator – Ms Perryman	sperryman@brakenhale.co.uk

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