

Brakenhale School

Year 8 News



Friday 25th January 2019

Dear Year 8 Students

Well done on a great start to the New Year. Ms Coley commented on how great you all looked smart and ready for learning in our first assembly back. As it is the start of the year, as well as a start of a new term, we have been thinking about what goals we can set for ourselves. Thoughts like; trying our best, focusing on the work today, so that tomorrow we can progress our learning further. Mr Hartley's assembly made a big impression on many of us, as he shared about the dangers of being addicted to using the mobile phone. This was also shared with a letter to parents and it was also investigated in our PSHE lesson last week. This week in assembly we were asked to think about choice as being yes or no. We laughed at some of the choices shown on the projector. Do we take that deal? Deal or no deal? Go to the pool with our mates or not? This is also true in school, in that every day, in every lesson we can make a choice to engage in our learning and develop our thinking skills and memory recall. We are very proud of the number of you who have made these positive decisions and go above and beyond by encouraging others to do so too.

This week was our parents' evenings, with year 8 being the first year group to have two evenings, BRAK on the Wednesday and ENH on the Thursday. We also were in the Geography block and ground floor of the Sixth form building. It was great to see so many of you with your parents who were able to meet your teachers and hear about your learning. There was a great positive buzz and we hope you take the ideas for progressing your learning that the staff gave you to try at home. We would love to have feedback from you.

Attendance continues to be an improvement on last year. We are at 95%. We are pleased that in the last three weeks, the best tutor group attendance has been achieved by 8A, 8H and 8E. Well done. This is a real achievement because we know that when you are in school you are giving yourself the best opportunity to achieve your potential.

A special mention has to go to Mr Maye and Miss Manning who accompanied a small group of year 8 students to Aberdovey in Wales. Whilst we were surprised with our little snow flurry one day at home time, they were camping up a mountain, with hailstones, rain and snow. Some even experienced icicles on the inside of their tents! We have been thrilled that everyone who participated came back with stories of resilience and how teamwork makes a difference. We heard how one person even helped Mr Maye overcome a dislike of climbing at great heights. So well done.

All the extra-curricular clubs have started up and there is a notice in your tutor room reminding you of what is running each day. The PE department has also been encouraging our sports students in their practising, as fixtures have already been running this term. Again, this is displayed on your tutor board. We would like to remind everyone that there are peer mentors (trained by the Diana project) in the SSC, who are available every break and lunch if you wish to talk to a peer rather than a staff member.

We wonder, have you noticed that the default screen being projected in classroom keeps changing? It is a way of reminding all of us what are the school rules, expectations and non-negotiables. Well done to all those who are checking their tools for learning regularly. Remember glue sticks, highlighters and protractors are all available in the print room at cheaper than supermarket prices.

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

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High Expectations and Challenge for All

Lastly, the sun maybe shining but the temperature keeps changing. The forecast is turning cold again next week, so ensure you wrap up warmly in a plain black coat and make use of the allocated rooms C03, CO4, CO5 for break and lunch. Enjoy your weekend.

Kind regards



Mr M Cooper
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Mrs S Wilkins
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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

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KEY EVENTS – 28th January

	Tutor	Notices
Monday	Reading project	
Tuesday	Sports Hall Assembly With SLT	Clubs: please check tutor notice board
Wednesday	Tools for learning check Reading project	Clubs: please check tutor notice board
Thursday	Reading project	Clubs: please check tutor notice board
Friday	Quiz or reading project	Clubs: please check tutor notice board

Lunchtime and Period 6 detention

Lunchtime detention for lateness and uniform in S11
Period 6 A04 with Mr Cooper and Mrs Wilkins from after school until 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	Event
Wednesday 6 th February	PSHE P5
Tuesday 12 th February	House Assemblies Tues - Fri
Tuesday 19 th February	We Will Rock You - Musical Rehearsal – 10.00 – 15.00 – HALF TERM
Tuesday 26 th February	Technical Rehearsal We will Rock You – All Day
Wednesday 27 th February	We Will Rock You Performance - Primary School/Dress Run 9.30 -12pm 1 st performance 6-8pm
Thursday 28 th February	We Will Rock You Performance – 2nd performance 6- 8pm
Thursday 28 th February	PSHE Period 1

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