

Brakenhale School Parent News

14th October 2016



Dear Parents/Carers

It is always so lovely to read a packed Parent News such as this one! The students have had a very busy week and have achieved some great things. The school council visit to the council chambers was a great success and the young people were so proud to be able to hold their meeting within the chamber rooms. For many of them it was an inspirational visit and they have come back with so many ideas about how to take forward democracy within the school. The photos and write up below will tell you all about it.

We have had sporting and dance successes this week and the numbers of young people participating in extracurricular activities is constantly increasing. We are so lucky to have a staff who are committed to ensuring that opportunities are available in so many different curriculum areas across the week.

Today the local fire brigade have been in to talk to all of our Year 7 students about road safety, please do ask them about what was discussed – it is so important that we do all we can to keep our students safe out on the road.

Finally our students have shown their appreciation for others less fortunate than themselves through non-school uniform day. A special mention to Ellicia Darby who organised a cake sale for cancer research raising over a £100 and Marta Contente who baked an amazing cake which was raffled and raised a further £40. Well done girls!

Best wishes

Jane Coley, Headteacher

What's On Next Week

Wednesday 19th October **Year 10 Information Evening, 7pm**

Thursday 20th October **Year 8 PTA Disco, 7-9pm**

YEAR 8

If you haven't already, don't forget to buy your tickets for the DISCO on Thursday.

Ticket for the event are available via Parentpay or main reception.

Thursday
20th October 2016

The Brakenhale School PTA
Year 8 DISCO
Main Hall
7.00-9.00pm
Drinks and Snacks
will be on sale

£3.00
ENTRY BY TICKET ONLY

Year 10 Information Evening

On Wednesday 19th October we will be holding our Year 10 Curriculum Information Evening from 7pm to 8pm for parents and students.

During this evening we will share information on the new curriculum, grading systems and highlight the support in place for your child this year. There will be a number of sessions during which staff will explain the best ways of supporting study, the way forward for 2016-2018 and information on the new GCSEs in English, Science and Maths that Year 10 students have now started. The evening will also be an opportunity for parents to meet with the new Senior Leadership and Pastoral Team members who will be working with the students.



Mr Benson, Head of Year 10

Dance

Congratulations to the following students on gaining a place in this year's Brakenhale Dance Company. Everyone who auditioned was fantastic and the standard has certainly improved; there were some really tough decisions. The students below will be performing at the Lift Off Dance Festival at South Hill Park next year, representing the school.

- Year 12 - Kieran West, Fay Beesley, Chloe Johnson
- Year 11 - Jade Ackuaku, Jaime Leishman, Kiera Hopkins, Jess Payne
- Year 10 - Megan Slade, Danica Birt, Emma Beesley, Beth Stokes
- Year 9 - Charlotte Butler, Lauren Williams, Tiegan Wright, Emily Cary
- Year 8 - Emma Warner, Maisie Sweeney
- Year 7 - Paige Moss, Porsche McCarthy, Alice Macdonald, Vania Apana

The Year 7 students were so fantastic they have been granted their own dance company – 'the minis'. This will be running after school on Wednesdays.

Also, Kieran West, Year 12, will be running our boys' dance group on Wednesday lunchtimes so please encourage any boys in Year 7 or 8 who are interested to come (this starts next week).

Miss Haley, Head of Dance

Student Council Visit

Brakenhale Student Council held their first meeting of the year on Thursday 13th October.

The council team, led by the Sixth Form head boy and girl team, were given the fantastic opportunity to hold the meeting in the Bracknell Forest Council chambers. Students used this opportunity to discuss key points raised across all year groups in this great venue.



During the visit students got to meet and engage in a Q & A session with The Mayor, Tony Virgo, as well as looking at some of the regeneration work that is taking place in Bracknell. A fantastic opportunity for our students and a great way to inspire their interest in politics.

Miss C Thomas, School Voice Lead

Year 11 Half Term Study Sessions

Staff will be running study sessions for Year 11 over October half term for various subjects.

With Year 11 in full swing it is vital that our students get as much information, subject knowledge and exam technique delivered to them as possible. Furthermore it will allow students an opportunity to complete controlled assessments if required by departments.

We are aware that Year 11 are working hard and significant demands are being placed on them but these sessions will add important hours to their learning. We appreciate that some of you may already have plans over half term but if you could ensure students attend these sessions whenever they are available it would be very useful. Please could you let the relevant member of staff know if your child will not be attending to help with planning.

- Monday: Business Studies priority, Health and Social Care & BTEC Sport for non-Business students (am)
- Tuesday: Maths 11XY5 (am)
- Wednesday: Graphics (am only)
- Thursday: French priority, Photography (am)
- Friday: GCSE IT priority (am), Computing priority (pm), Drama (all day)

The morning sessions will run from 9am to 12midday and afternoon sessions from 1pm to 4pm. If students have full day sessions these will be from 9am to 4pm, they should please bring a lunch with them.

Mr P Gibson, Deputy Headteacher

Student Cake Sale for Charity

Year 9 student Ellicia Darby, together with a group of friends, organised a charity cake sale for cancer.

They displayed a delicious selection of home-made and bought cakes at break and lunchtime and raised an impressive £102.52

Marta Contente also baked a mouth-watering Oreo cake that looked too good to cut so it was decided to help raise more money by raffling the cake instead. Mrs Coley presided over the draw and the winning ticket belonged to Mrs Theal, our Curriculum Support Officer, who has informed us that she will generously be sharing the cake with her grandchildren this weekend. The raffle raised an additional £40.



PE News

The PE department have been busy this week with not only extra-curricular clubs but a number of fixtures as well. We have had over 240 students attending clubs or fixtures this week, which is fantastic. Please keep up the good work!

Netball

This week saw the first netball fixture of the season and it was a fantastic start with both Year 9 and 10 winning their matches.

Year 9s won 21-14 against Sandhurst
Player of the Match (POM) - Ella Hammond-Baveystock

Year 10's won 11-10 against Sandhurst
POM - Asha Munissi

We are looking forward to the Year 8, 9 and 7a/b games next week.



Cross Country

Some great runs this week for the cross country runners with Ella Benson coming 4th! We also had a record number of boys running in the cross country.

The final cross country race for the season will be on TUESDAY 18TH OCTOBER for both boys and girls and will be at The Piggott School (the same course as this week).



Football

Sadly the Year 11s lost to Windsor Boys in the National Cup but they all played well - fingers crossed we do better in the league.

Year 10 are into the 3rd round of the National Cup with the oppositions cancelling their 2nd round fixture!

The Sixth Form football team played Denefield on Monday in a really good, even game resulting in 2-2 at full time. The sides still could not be split with 4 penalties scored each. Ben Evans made a save and David Bowyer slammed it down the middle to give Brakenhale a win 5-4 on penalties. Please see Matthew Nower's match report further on.

The Sixth Form are playing the staff on Friday in a charity match to raise awareness of mental health. Details of this match to come in next week's news!

Leaders


A mixture of 20 Year 9 to 11 students umpired the annual Primary School Netball Tournament, hosted by Brakenhale. They were all amazing umpires; not only did they umpire they also coached some of the schools on the rules and where they should be standing. A massive well done to you girls.



Congratulations to Lynford Sackey who attended county trials on Friday, he has been selected to represent U14 Berkshire Football. Well done to Clancy Osei who was also at the trials but sadly missed out on selection.

We would like to thank our minibus drivers as without them we would not be able to attend so many fixtures.

Fixtures for the Week beginning 17th October

<h3>Monday</h3>	<h3>Tuesday</h3>	<h3>Thursday</h3>
Year 10 Rugby v Sandhurst (Home)	Year 7,8, 9 and 10 Girls and Boys Cross Country (at Piggott)	Year 8 Rugby v Garth (Home) Year 7 A + B Netball v Garth (Away)
		 @brakenhalePE

Go #teambrokenhale lets go for another successful week!

Miss L Willimott, Lead Coordinator of Girls PE and Teacher in Charge of Health and Social Care

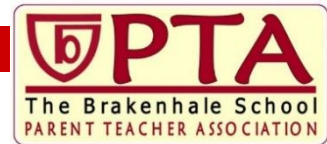
Matthew Nower Match report: Brakenhale Sixth Form v Denefield 2 – 2; Brakenhale win 5 – 4 on penalties

The first game for the Sixth Form this year was against Denefield in the U19 cup. We only had twelve players so we knew it was going to be tough. From the kick off, we controlled the match well with Matt and Leigh staying strong in the middle and distributing the ball into the wide areas. David was running the channels in the wide areas and putting crosses in for Dominik to attack. With about 10 minutes remaining, the first goal of the game came. Quick thinking from Leigh on the right led to a long throw in to the box, where Dominik finished it at the second attempt to make it 1-0 to Brakenhale. Towards the end of the half, Denefield mounted some strong attacks down their left side of midfield, only to be stopped by James who would not let their left midfielder past him. Joe and Owen continued to work hard down the left making some good tackles and creating some good chances. After a good 25 minutes of football from both sides the half time whistle sounded to signal the end of the first half, 1 -0 to Brakenhale.

The second half got under way and within the first 5 minutes Denefield had equalised, playing the ball down the middle for their striker to place the ball into the back of the net to make it 1 – 1. Quincy continued to make some excellent runs on and off the ball, creating some good chances. Aaron and Andy also continued their excellent form from the first half, making some good tackles and keeping their strike force at bay. However, with about 10 minutes gone, we went ahead. Again, another quick throw in taken by David was thrown towards Dominik who flicked the ball on. The ball then fell to Owen who turned his marker and fired the ball with his left foot into the top corner to make the score 2 – 1. Eliphaz then came on for Owen with about 15 minutes left. Denefield then mounted some pressure on our defence, with some sustained pressure. However, our defence stood strong, with our back four of James, Andy, Aaron and Joe not letting anything past them. Ben continued his excellent first half performance with some good saves and catches. Matt and Leigh were providing some good protection in front of them, winning aerial battles and tackles in the centre of the pitch. David, Eliphaz and Quincy were working hard in midfield, chasing down players, but also working hard on the counter attack when we were in possession to create chances. Dominik was continuing his hard work in attack, closing down defenders, holding the ball up well and winning flick ons for our midfield to run onto.

With about 10 minutes left, Denefield equalised. After conceding a free kick just outside the penalty area, they slotted home the free kick to make the score 2 – 2. For the remainder of the game, there was pressure from both sides with both creating chances. With neither side able to find a winner, the final whistle blew. Penalties. Leigh, Quincy, James, Dominik all scored their penalties with Denefield replying to everyone to make the score 4 -4. This was until Ben, who was unlucky not to make 2 or 3 penalty saves, made a fantastic save to make the score 4 – 4, giving David the chance to win the match. Keeping a cool head, he slotted the ball home making the score 5 – 4, giving Brakenhale Sixth Form their first win of the season. An excellent game played with the right attitude, with every player giving 100% effort in everything they did. A big thank-you to everyone who came down and supported the team, we really appreciated it. Onto the next round!

PTA



PTA Upcoming Events:

- PTA Unwanted Clothes Collection up until Thursday 17th November
- PTA Year 8 Disco Thursday 20th October
- PTA AGM: Tuesday 1st November, followed by the monthly meeting
- Christmas Market: Thursday 24th November
- PTA Meeting: Tuesday 6th December

We look forward to welcoming you to our future events.



RECYCLE YOUR OLD CLOTHES, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES.

We are once again collecting old clothes, shoes and accessories to help raise money for the school via the PTA.

Please start collecting your unwanted items ready to bring in to school in November.

We will be giving out bags to students and they are also available from main reception, or put your items in a black bin bag.

Please contact Sarah Hartley at the school if you have any questions.
shartley@brakenhale.co.uk

Thank you for supporting the school!

RECYCLE!

Don't send your unwanted items to landfill...

The more bags you bring the more money we raise for the school.

The following 'good quality' items are accepted for RE-USE:

- ✓ Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- ✓ Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- ✓ Handbags
- ✓ Hats
- ✓ Bags
- ✓ Scarves and ties
- ✓ Jewellery
- ✓ Lingerie
- ✓ Belts
- ✓ Soft toys

Not accepted:

- ✓ Duvets, bedding, blankets and household linen
- ✓ Pillows and cushions
- ✓ Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)
- ✓ Curtains
- ✓ Towels
- ✓ Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing
- ✓ School uniforms
- ✓ Corporate clothing and workwear
- ✓ Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

Thank you for supporting the school!

Thursday
20th October 2016

**The Brakenhale School PTA
Year 8 DISCO**

Main Hall
7.00-9.00pm

Drinks and Snacks will be on sale

£3.00
ENTRY BY TICKET ONLY

PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) Tuesday 1st November 2016 at 7pm

All parents and members of the school community can get involved in the PTA. Even if you only have a small amount of time available, all parents are automatically members when your children join our school.

The PTA exists to provide closer links between home and school. It is a fun way to bring staff, parents and students together in support of a common goal. Currently, we have raised sufficient money to purchase sustainable benches to improving the outside space for students and we are looking at funding requests from departments.

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month from 7pm in the Student Support Centre.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of The Brakenhale School PTA, will take place on Tuesday 1st November 2016. The evening will commence at 7pm with the PTA Annual General Meeting, followed by the monthly PTA meeting in the school's Student Support Centre. Refreshments will be provided.

The PTA plays a vital part in the school community and all parents/carers and staff, as members of the PTA, are invited to support the AGM. This is your chance to hear and see how the funds you have helped to raise have been used for the benefit of the students at our school. Without the PTA there would be no school discos, no Christmas Market or events such as Quiz Night, Bingo Evening or Race Night and less money raised to support projects such as the purchase of the new school minibus and improved outdoor spaces for the students. The school values all the effort and hard work of the PTA to raise money for the school's benefit.

The PTA Committee

Future Diary Dates

Monday 24 th to Friday 28 th October	Half Term
Tuesday 1 st November	PTA AGM and monthly meeting, 7pm
Thursday 3 rd November	Year 13 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 8 th November	Sixth Form Open Evening
Wednesday 9 th November	Year 12 Safe Drive Stay Alive trip (Reading)
Thursday 24 th November	PTA Christmas Market
Tuesday 6 th December	PTA Meeting

Term Dates 2016-17

*Inset Days: Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th December 2016
Tuesday 18th April 2017*

AUTUMN TERM 2016

Monday 5th September – Friday 16th December 2016

Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th December 2016 **Inset Days**

Autumn Half Term - Monday 24th to Friday 28th October 2016

Christmas Holiday: Wednesday 21st December 2016 to Tuesday 3rd January 2017

SPRING TERM 2017

Wednesday 4th January – Friday 31st March 2017

Spring Half Term - Monday 13th to Friday 17th February 2017

Spring Holiday: Monday 3rd April to Monday 17th April 2017

(Good Friday 14th April, Easter Monday 17th April)

SUMMER TERM 2017

Tuesday 18th April **Inset Day**
Wednesday 19th April – Friday 21st July 2017

Summer Half Term - Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2017

Bracknell Forest term dates can be found on their website:

<http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schooltermholidaydates>

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

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

High Expectations and Challenge for All