



Dear Parents/Carers

This week has been incredibly hot and we have tried to ensure that there is plenty of access to water during lunch and break times. As you will see, some parents have commented in the drab feedback that there has not been enough water, so we have increased availability this week. As the heat continues, I urge all parents to encourage their children to bring a water bottle to school every day. Please remember you can order Brakenhale water bottles online through Parentpay.

Our campaign to save Ms Loj has gone from strength to strength, many thanks to those of you who have retweeted and shared twitter posts and facebook pages and of course a huge thanks for signing our petitions. If you have not already done so please can you sign for us links below. I have met with Dr Philip Lee, MP, this morning and he has agreed to do all he can to support our campaign.

[Parliament Petition](#) [#savemissloj](#) [#letthemteach](#) [#teambrokenhale](#)
<https://www.tes.com/news/letthemteach-please-dont-force-me-leave-my-pupils-behind>

On Wednesday and Thursday we held transition days for our Year 6 students who will be joining us in September. We followed this with parents' evenings on both days and we had an amazing turn out. All the students thoroughly enjoyed their time with us and were incredibly excited, the way in which they were engaged in their lessons and conducted themselves around the school was exemplary. I felt incredibly proud of all of them and of all the staff who worked with them, both across the two days and in preparation for the event. Mr Coley visited 18 primary schools on two occasions to meet up with the students in order to ensure that they were fully informed about induction days and were as comfortable as they could be as they entered through the gates. Furthermore, our Year 10 students, who were chosen to work with the Year 6 students across the two days, were outstanding in every respect. They oversaw students getting to and from lessons, gave up all their break and lunch times to be with them and helped the teachers out in all the lessons. They were the epitome of #TeamBrakenhale and as a result are all students of the week – please see below.

Our Fab comments this week:

- Lost property swiftly found and returned.
- Parent newsletters jam packed with various information, regular building up date and positivity. Thank you.
- BBC report, watching how you all support each other. The students did well and all looked very smart. Fingers crossed your efforts have saved this teacher and many others.
- Coming home with a positive recognition golden ticket and also awarded a house point was a boost. Nice that expectations and positives are recognized in the school.
- Introducing school shorts to Brakenhale uniform and allowing blazers and ties to come off in warmer weather.
- Great to hear that you are looking after the environment by supplying Brakenhale re-usable logo school bottles as well as recycle bins for plastic bottles for those students that don't have re-usable bottles.
- Informative website and parent news.
- I just want to call out all the staff for all their efforts to get the Year 11 crew over the finishing line. All of the additional work put in over half term, etc was a real benefit and you are a credit to your profession! A personal acknowledgement goes to Mr Benson, who was a massive help throughout the whole of the last 2 years in managing certain situations and really caring about getting the students to where they are now. Further call outs to Ms Coley and Mr Gibson for completely turning the school around. Brakenhale is no longer a school to be doubted, and is now seen as being a school that people want their children to attend. You have all done an amazing job, enjoy the break and bring on Sixth Form!
- Transition day. From a huge welcome, party, fun lessons, happy staff, help, biscuits and drink provided at break. Great work. Thank you.
- Year 6 Transition day - my daughter had the best day - all staff so welcoming!

Drab comments this week:

- Would be nice if the students had a designated place to go to eat packed lunches in the shade rather than a very busy lunch hall or in the sun.
- Not enough water fountains to refill re-usable bottle during hot weather at lunch.

Staff member of the week is:

Miss Loj – She has been happy in our lessons, even though she has gone through a lot the past week in her life.

Student of the week goes to:

All the student ambassadors for transition: Eddie Fuksz, Lily Knowles, Courtney Winfield, Ella Hammond-Baveystock, Lauren Williams, Lucy Junor-Graham, Amy Peters, Ellie Sines, Ethan Brock, Maizie Fitzpatrick-Burke, Miriam Appiah Amponsah, Reece Powney, Clancy Osei, Joel Bryan, Lester Dumfeh, Jack Riley, Olivia Coles, Joe Jefferies, Reece Probert and Emily Cary.

The motivational quote for next week:

‘Aim for the moon, if you miss you may hit a star’ – W Clement Stone

My best wishes

Jane Coley, Headteacher

What's on next week

Monday 9 th July	Big Book Look Week Year 7 End of Year Exams start End of Year Dance Show
Wednesday 11 th July	Sports Day
Friday 13 th July	Year 10 Trip

BIG Book Look Week



Our BIG Book Look Week for **all years** will be taking place next week.

During Book Look weeks, exercise books/folders will be sent home with students for parents to see their son/daughter's work and how they are progressing in their subjects.

Could we please ask that parents and students ensure that they bring their books back to into school after taking them home.

Mrs G Powell, Assistant Headteacher

University Conference

On Wednesday, myself and Mrs Basara-Hamilton took 12 extremely hardworking Year 10 students to a "getting into top universities" conference in London.

Speaking to the students on the day were members of the faculty of Oxford University and Kings College London. It was a really engaging and enjoyable experience for them and I know they have taken invaluable information from the day. Rajal B who attended the trip said "It was a very informative day and has motivated me to work hard to get into a top University".

We will be passing out the information we gathered to more of the Year 10 students in the coming months.

Mr O Donoghue, Head of Year 10



Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award

Last weekend Mrs Daniels and I had the privilege of supporting this year's Year 10 silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award practice expedition.

These 7 silver award students have worked tirelessly on perfecting their route and really showcased themselves on the expedition. Sam, from BXM Expeditions, worked with the group and had nothing but praise for their attitude, positivity, navigational skills and love of the Duke of Edinburgh scheme. There were other schools also on their expedition and I am filled with pride to say our Brakenhale participants shone brighter than the rest.



We have tweaked the date of the group's assessed expedition to during the summer holidays to ensure there is a date all members of the group can do. I am proud to work at a school where both staff and students show this level of commitment.

Good luck boys on your assessed expedition and I hope you move forward to achieve your gold award together.

Mr Hicks, Duke of Edinburgh Manager

Art, Photography & Technology Exhibition

On Monday 2nd July the work from Year 11, 12 and 13 Art and Photography, together with plus Product Design was displayed for one evening only.

The variety and quality of the work on display was breath-taking and of an incredibly high standard.

Credit goes to the Art, Photography and Technology departments for inspiring their students to create such amazing work.



Year 8 Enrichment

A group of Year 8 students were involved in an enrichment project last week and they have written this article about it.

Miss Metcalfe, Science Teacher

Stem enrichment project

For the stem enrichment project, myself (Stephanie Dundon), Lauren Slade and Alice McDonald took a test to see how chemicals we use in our science lessons effect our skin if we encounter them. This was the topic we chose ourselves as we wanted to be able to produce a safety pack that could be used when going through the dangers of these chemicals.

What we did was go through where these chemicals mainly affect and where it would mainly go if dropped and this was the skin and eyes so for our test we used turkey breast and lamb eyes. For this we then chose four different chemicals these included; copper sulphate, hydrochloric acid, sulphuric acid, and sodium hydroxide.

To be able to see the effects of our test we checked then after 24 hours and then 4 days later this was to see whether they happened straight away or were long term effects. From this we could then predict what would happen to our skin such as from our results burning on the skin as well as scarring there could also be a colour change. For the eyes we saw a lot of them begin to disfigure showing blindness this allowed us in our booklet to present the need for safety goggles.

This project allowed us to be able to have the freedom to experiment on the subjects we wanted to look deeper into and gave us the opportunity of being independent on how we presented this and how we did the experiment. This gave us amazing opportunity which we enjoyed and was very educational for us.

By Stephanie Dundon



Copper sulphate



Sodium hydroxide



Sulphuric acid



Hydrochloric acid

Revitalised Astro Pitch

The school's site team have been working super hard in clearing all the sand off the astro pitch, which is a long and difficult job but the outcome has been very pleasing. It really does make a huge difference.

The pictures show the pitch half done but I am pleased to say that the whole area is now ready for Friday's Staff v Sixth Form game. It really does make a huge difference.

Thanks to all 4 members of the team for the massive hard work on this.

Mr Thomas, Assistant Headteacher



End of Year Events



Dance Show

Monday 9th July

The Dance Department would like to proudly present their end of year show Shadows. The evening will include work from our dance clubs and companies including The Minis, AURORA, Dark Matter, Free Fall and our all new Year 7 Boys Group - Boys in Motion. Students from Year 10 will be performing their own choreography and performance pieces from the year. Year 12 and 13 will perform a range of works including repertoire pieces and choreography created through their work with external professionals. This will be our Year 13 students farewell performance before they continue their studies in Dance/Performing Arts at their chosen vocational schools and Universities.



Drama Sharing: Variety Show

Monday 16th July

Please join us for an informal sharing of student work from our extracurricular Drama clubs. The evening will include a range of different scenes and songs from musicals and plays, all selected and created by students from Years 7 to 12. As part of the evening the Year 7 Drama club will present their exploration of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Expect lots of variety and fun performances.

Drama Request

If anyone has any old toy guns, knives or swords that they would be able to donate to the Drama Department, it would be very much appreciated.

Mrs Raby, Teacher of Drama and Dance

Uniform

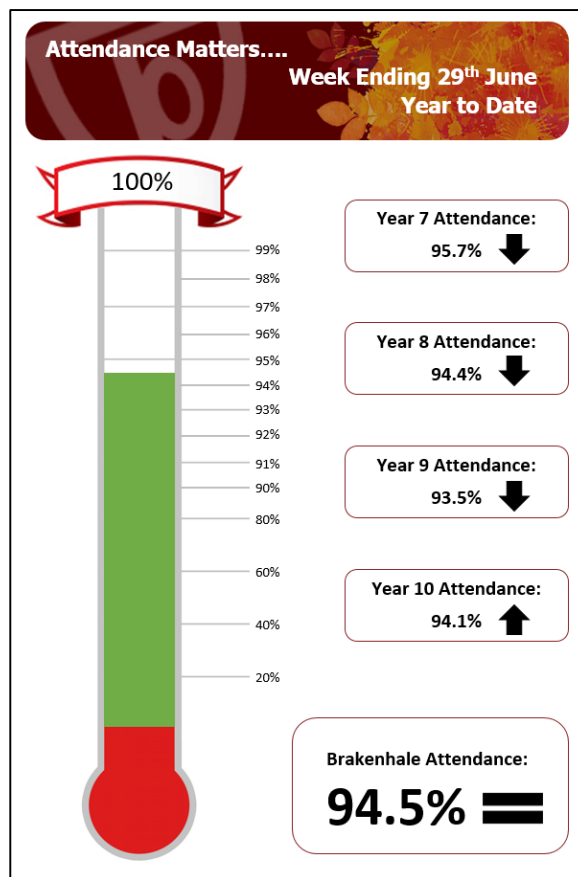
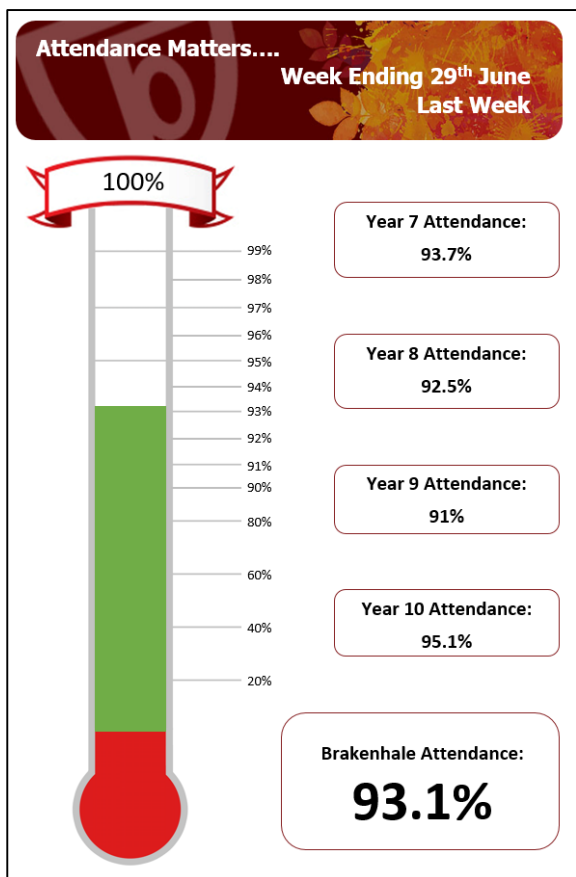
Thank you to all the Year 11 parents who have donated a large quantity of no-longer needed uniform.

Could we please remind everyone to name all items of uniform so that lost items can be easily and swiftly reunited with their student.

Mrs McCrorie, Curriculum Support

Attendance

Please find below our attendance figures for last week and the Year to date.



Miss Shill, Attendance Officer

PE News

Berkshire School Games 2018 @ Bisham Abbey National Sports Centre

On Wednesday 27th July a Year 9 Brakenhale Ultimate Frisbee team represented Bracknell Forest at the Berkshire School Games at Bisham Abbey. The mixed gender team played a number of different opponents from across the county, some of whom had been coached by a GB International player. They represented the school excellently and have picked up some valuable and transferable skills.

During the day the students also got the chance to do some bellboating on the River Thames, play football with a GB freestyler and ask questions to a GB Hockey Olympian.

At the same event we had 3 of our Young Ambassadors from Year 10 who were helping run the event as part of their Level 1 leadership qualification. The girls were a real credit to the school and were commended on their professionalism and hard work over the two day event. Well done to Emily, Miriam and Hannah!



Brakenhale School Sports Day 2018

On Wednesday 11th July the most anticipated date on the school calendar takes place.

Over the last few weeks students have been putting themselves forward to represent their Houses in a variety of events taking place on our Sports Day.

This year is the first time the event will contribute towards the new House system that was launched this Academic year. The current standings are very tight so Sports Day will go a long way in determining the overall House champions for 2017-18.

During Period 1, Year 7 and 8 will compete in their Field Events - Long Jump, High Jump, Javelin and Shot Put. Period 2 sees the turn of Year 9 and 10.

At 11am the school will have an extended break/lunchtime until 11.30am to facilitate an extended whole school sports day starting with the Opening Ceremony at 11.45am. All running events plus the hotly contested Tug of War and Welly Wanging events will take place between 12pm and 15.05pm on the field.

Students need to come into school on 11th July in their House colours (appropriate for taking part in sporting activities!), plenty of water, sunscreen and some small change to support the PTA refreshment stalls. The forecast is warm again so lots of water, sunscreen and a cap are recommended.

The event is a student/staff event only, apologies we are not able to accommodate parents on site for this event. We will communicate results and news from our Sports Day in the end of term newsletter.

Mr W Yeates, Head of PE

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

Calling all sports stars...

Do you participate in a number of fixtures?

If you would like us to tweet about your success and team photos

Then we need your permissions!

Otherwise you **cannot be in any photos** and we can't celebrate your success!

Are you proud to represent Brakenhale at fixtures?

The people with the red crosses have not given permission, we cannot use this photo now!

Have you given us your permission?

If you are unsure please speak to a member of the PE team or Mrs Best in the school office (email: sbest@brakenhale.co.uk) or resubmit the permissions form

PE EXTRA CURRICULAR

MONDAYS - STAFF MEETINGS

TUESDAY
 ROUNDERS - ALL YEARS - LRU + LWI
 ATHLETICS - ALL YEARS - WYE + JBO + GMV

WEDNESDAY
 CRICKET - YEAR 7 AND 8 - RBE
 CRICKET - YEAR 9 + 10 - GMV
 FITNESS INDUCTIONS - WYE

THURSDAY
 SOFTBALL - ALL YEARS - JBO
 ATHLETICS - ALL YEARS - LRU + RBE + LWI
 TENNIS - ALL YEARS - WYE

@BRAKENHALEPE

Feedback Initiative

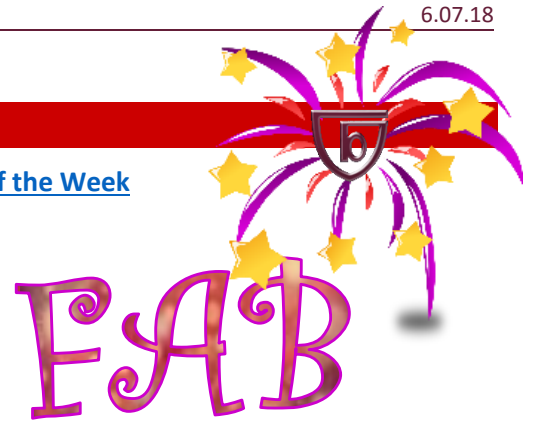
Electronic submission: [Fab](#) [Drab](#) [Staff Member of the Week](#)

We would encourage you to submit your views and feedback at anytime, and we look forward to hearing from you regularly.

Ms Coley, Headteacher

Round-Up (29th June to 5th July)

You think we are doing great at the following things at Brakenhale:



- ✓ Lost property swiftly found and returned.
- ✓ Parent newsletters jam packed with various information, regular building up date and positivity. Thank you.
- ✓ BBC report, watching how you all support each other. The students did well and all looked very smart. Fingers crossed your efforts have saved this teacher and many others.
- ✓ Coming home with a positive recognition golden ticket and also awarded a house point was a boost. Nice that expectations and positives are recognized in the school.
- ✓ Introducing school shorts to Brakenhale uniform and allowing blazers and ties to come off in warmer weather.
- ✓ Great to hear that you are looking after the environment by supplying Brakenhale re-usable logo school bottles as well as recycle bins for plastic bottles for those students that don't have re-usable bottles.
- ✓ Informative website and parent news.
- ✓ I just want to call out all the staff for all their efforts to get the Year 11 crew over the finishing line. All of the additional work put in over half term, etc was a real benefit and you are a credit to your profession! A personal acknowledgement goes to Mr Benson, who was a massive help throughout the whole of the last 2 years in managing certain situations and really caring about getting the students to where they are now. Further call outs to Ms Coley and Mr Gibson for completely turning the school around. Brakenhale is no longer a school to be doubted, and is now seen as being a school that people want their children to attend. You have all done an amazing job, enjoy the break and bring on Sixth Form!
- ✓ Transition day. From a huge welcome, party, fun lessons, happy staff, help, biscuits and drink provided at break. Great work. Thank you.
- ✓ Year 6 Transition day - my daughter had the best day - all staff so welcoming!

Brakenhale PTA School Lottery

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to our school lottery. We are looking to increase new members each month, so if you have not signed up yet now is your chance to do this.

There is a weekly draw in which you could win a prize (approximately £20 depending on participants, which increases the more members we have). Plus you have a weekly chance to win up to £25,000.

There is also a chance to win restaurant vouchers this summer.

Click on the link today and join up: [Support the Brakenhale Lottery](#)

You have to be in it to win it.



Activities, Clubs and Information


CALLING ALL YEAR 7S: SHAKESPEARE IN ACTION

- Check out my plays
- look at the trends I set in language
- Be part of a Shakespearean performance

Drama studio

- Wednesdays 3:15-4:15
- With Mrs Lewis
- Sign up on Wednesday 11th April

"We know what we are, but not what we may be"



Our heroes (currently lost in Yarrin) are battling the Secret Order (and 30 degree heat) in a race to secure the treasure and save the world; well at least themselves.

D & D Every Wednesday and Thursday
 C14 3:05pm all welcome #worldoffantasy



Extra Curricular Dance Timetable Starting from Monday 4th June

End of Year Dance Show on Monday 9th July

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Break time	Open for rehearsals	Year 10 - 13 rehearsals	Open for rehearsals	Open for rehearsals	Year 10 - 13 rehearsals
Lunch time	Open for rehearsals	Year 10 - 13 rehearsals	DARK MATTER	Open for rehearsals	Year 10 - 13 rehearsals
After School 3:05 onwards	AUDORA Dance Company (JNS) Kiera H Open to Year 8	DARK MATTER Dance Company (MS) Miss Raby Year 8 Boys Year 7 Boys Group (JNS) Miss Haley Open to Year 7 Boys	FREE FALL Dance Company (MS) Miss Haley Year 9 -13 Girls group Contemporary piece	FREE FALL Dance Company (MS) Miss Haley Year 9 -13 Girls group Jazz piece	The Mini's (MS) Jess P & Miss Haley Open to Year 7

Mondays All years

TEXTILES STUDIO

3.10 to 4pm Starting 16th April

in C06

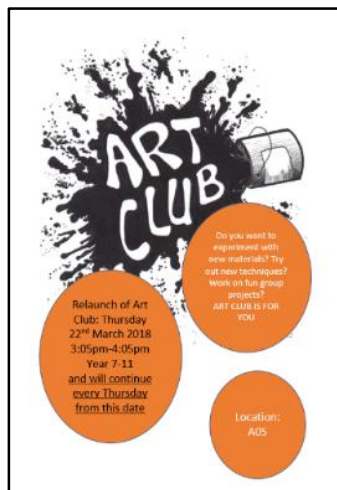


ART CLUB

Do you want to experiment with new materials? Try out new techniques? Work on fun group projects? **ART CLUB IS FOR YOU!**

Relaunch of Art Club: Thursday 22nd March 2018 3:05pm-4:05pm Year 7-11 and will continue every Thursday from this date

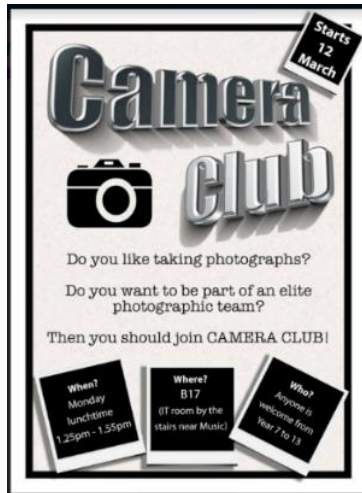
Location: AGS



Camera Club Starts 12 March

Do you like taking photographs?
 Do you want to be part of an elite photographic team?
 Then you should join CAMERA CLUB!

When? Monday lunchtime 1.25pm - 1.55pm
Where? B17 (IT room by the stairs near Music)
What happens in welcome from Year 7 to 13



Igniting Writing Summer Teen Writing Workshops
 Wokingham Library

Ever wanted to try writing and coming up with your own stories? Or share your ideas with other aspiring writers? If so, you're in luck - Igniting Writing, Wokingham Library's creative writing club, are running a series of action-packed writing workshops for anyone between 11-18 years old to take part in!


Friday 26th July, 10.30am to 12pm

Saturday 27th July, 10.30am to 12pm

Saturday 28th July, 10.30am to 12pm

Both of the workshop sessions will include fun writing exercises, group discussions and some sort of fun and skills to develop your writing skills. There will be a book launch for you to bring something with you.

Wokingham District Council



ESTEEM

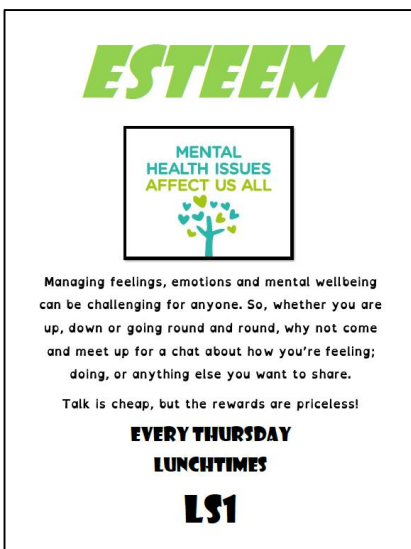
MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AFFECT US ALL

Managing feelings, emotions and mental wellbeing can be challenging for anyone. So, whether you are up, down or going round and round, why not come and meet up for a chat about how you're feeling; doing, or anything else you want to share!

Talk is cheap, but the rewards are priceless!

EVERY THURSDAY LUNCHTIMES

LS1



BE IN YOUR MATE'S CORNER

1 in 10 young people will experience a mental health problem this year. If your mate's acting differently, step in.

- 1 Text, call, reach out
- 2 Listen, don't judge
- 3 Do something together

time-to-change.org.uk #inyourcorner

time to change
 MHP and mental health distributors



STOP

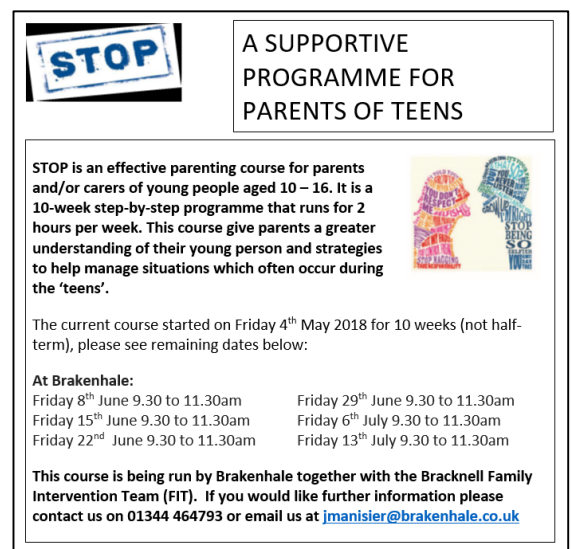
A SUPPORTIVE PROGRAMME FOR PARENTS OF TEENS

STOP is an effective parenting course for parents and/or carers of young people aged 10 – 16. It is a 10-week step-by-step programme that runs for 2 hours per week. This course give parents a greater understanding of their young person and strategies to help manage situations which often occur during the 'teens'.

The current course started on Friday 4th May 2018 for 10 weeks (not half-term), please see remaining dates below:

At Brakenhale:
 Friday 8th June 9.30 to 11.30am
 Friday 15th June 9.30 to 11.30am
 Friday 22nd June 9.30 to 11.30am
 Friday 29th June 9.30 to 11.30am
 Friday 6th July 9.30 to 11.30am
 Friday 13th July 9.30 to 11.30am

This course is being run by Brakenhale together with the Bracknell Family Intervention Team (FIT). If you would like further information please contact us on 01344 464793 or email us at jmanisier@brakenhale.co.uk



Current Vacancies

We have the following exciting opportunities at Brakenhale. Please see the website for more details.

<http://brakenhale.co.uk/about/vacancies/>

- Design & Technology Technician
- Nurture Group Lead
- History Teacher
- Graduates: English, Maths, Art, History Business & IT



We are currently seeking to recruit a number of Cleaning Operative to be based at our contracts in schools and local government buildings in Bracknell, Berkshire. The successful Cleaning Operatives will be required to work with other team members to ensure our clients premises are cleaned to the highest standard.

There are a variety of cleaning shifts available – from 6am – 8am and between 3.30pm – 8.00pm

The key responsibilities for the Cleaning Operative will include:

- Ensure that our clients premises are cleaned to a high standard.
- Vacuuming, dusting and mopping
- Emptying bins and removing litter
- Any other reasonable task requested by a member of the supervisory/management team

The successful applicant will have:

- Previous experience in a customer facing cleaning role
- Awareness of health and safety issues
- Ability to work unsupervised

A DBS certificate is required for this position. Hourly Rate - £8.00 per hour.

This represents a great opportunity to join a fast-growing business and develop your experience further. So, if you would like to join our rapidly expanding team and be part of their future success then apply today.

For further information and an early interview - Please contact Jackie on 07562 989015.

Future Diary Dates

Monday 16 th July	Variety Show
Wednesday 18 th July	Summer Awards Evening
Friday 20 th July	Last day of summer term for students
Thursday 16 th August	GCE Results Day: Year 13 at 9am, Year 12 at 11am (Sixth Form)
Thursday 23 rd August	GCSE Results Day: Year 11 at 9am, Year 10 at 10am (Main Hall)
Monday 3 rd and Tuesday 4 th September	Inset Days 1 and 2
Wednesday 5 th September	Back to school for students

Easy Fundraising!

Don't forget to shop through www.easyfundraising.org.uk to effortlessly help raise money for the school!



Term Dates

Term Dates 2017-18

SUMMER TERM 2018

Term dates for students:

Monday 16th April to Friday 20th July

Inset Day: Monday 23rd July

Summer Half Term - Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June

Summer Holiday for students – Monday 23rd July to Tuesday 4th September

(Inset Days: Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th September)

Term Dates 2018-19

AUTUMN TERM 2018

Term dates for students:

(Inset Days: Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th September)

Wednesday 5th September to Thursday 20th December

Autumn Half Term – Monday 22nd to Friday 26th October)

(Inset Day: Friday 21st December)

Christmas Holiday for students – Friday 21st December to Friday 4th January 2019

SPRING TERM 2019

Term dates for students:

Monday 7th January to Friday 5th April

Spring Half Term – Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February)

Spring Holiday for students – Monday 8th April to Monday 22nd April

(Good Friday 19th April, Easter Monday 22nd April)

SUMMER TERM 2019

Term dates for students:

Tuesday 23rd April to Friday 19th July

(Inset Days: Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July)

Summer Half Term – Monday 27th to Friday 31st May)

Last day of Summer Term for students – Friday 19th July

Bracknell Forest term dates can be found on their website:

<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/term-dates>

Advance Notice

Term Dates – 2019/2020

AUTUMN TERM 2019

Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September 2019 **Inset Days**

Wednesday 4th September – Thursday 19th December 2019

Autumn Half Term - Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November 2019

Christmas Holiday: Friday 20th December 2019 to Friday 3rd January 2020

SPRING TERM 2020

Monday 6th January – Friday 3rd April 2020

Spring Half Term - Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2020

Spring Holiday: Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April 2020

(Good Friday 10th April, Easter Monday 13th April)

SUMMER TERM 2020

Monday 20th April – Friday 17th July 2020

Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st July 2020 **Inset Days**

Summer Half Term - Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2020

Summer Holiday: starts on Friday 17th July 2020

INSET Days

Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September 2019

Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st July 2020

1 Inset Day to be confirmed



#challengeforall

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

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

High Expectations and Challenge for All