

Brakenhale School Parent News

4th May 2018



Dear Parents/Carers

This week has seen a number of events taking place which have offered our students superb enrichment opportunities. Yesterday all of Year 10 watched an outstanding performance of Macbeth delivered by a professional theatre company. Not only did they experience live theatre but they also gained invaluable insights into the play for their GCSE work.

Last weekend a number of our students performed in the Lift Off Dance festival with Miss Haley accompanying them, yet again they showed what impressive performers they really are. Please see the write up below. Mr Hicks and Mrs Daniels took our largest Duke of Edinburgh cohort to date on their bronze weekend expedition. For many students this was the first time they had slept in a tent, they certainly chose a cold and wet weekend!

Mr Hartley has delivered assemblies all week focusing on recycling. I have heard so many students talking about it this week and myself watched it this morning and understand why it has caused so many conversations. It was a really hard hitting presentation, illustrating the devastation that plastic in particular is causing to our planet. As a school, we will now be rapidly moving forward on our recycling schemes, more news to follow soon.

It was with great delight that yesterday I met with our newly appointed Head Boy and Head Girl who this week are our students of the week. I am proud to announce that Jordan Penn and Ella Brigden have been awarded this accolade. Official photographs and introductions will be made in the coming weeks. They will also receive our new student of the week mugs which were handed out yesterday and today to all students who have won this since September.

Big Book Look Week feedback finishes today, a huge thank you to all parents who have responded to the survey, please be assured that I am reading through the comments and will be putting in place systems in response.

Drab comments and action taken this week include:

- We will be reviewing the summer uniform for after the May half term, the weather is currently too unpredictable to move over to a slightly reduced uniform at this stage.
- In the new build there will be a bike shed that is more appropriate for effectively storing all bikes, which will be weather proof.
- We have recently appointed Mr Bailey as our new Second in Science and he is currently reviewing the schemes of work to look to incorporate more practical experiments.

Congratulations to Miss Rushby who has been appointed to a Head of Year role from September. We are delighted with this decision and we know she is going to do a great job.

Staff member of the week goes to Mr Bell. Some of you may know that he has a broken bone in his back, however, this has not prevented him from coming into school every day and teaching his examination classes. The pain he is in means that he is teaching lying down for the most part but he is determined that he will not miss any classes! The students have recognised this with comments such as:

'Mr Bell is an awesome teacher and I cannot believe how much commitment he has shown to our class by coming into work even when his back is really hurting.'

'Thank you Mr Bell for continuing to take our lessons even when you have to lie down on the floor.'

Next week we have Year 7 Parents' Evening on Thursday and I urge all Year 7 parents to attend and make use of this valuable time to meet with the teachers and to discuss your child's progress.

Motivational quote for next week is: 'A little progress each day adds up to big results.'

I hope that you enjoy the extended weekend and the predicted sunshine does happen.

Best wishes

Jane Coley, Headteacher

Follow us on our website, Facebook and Twitter too...



What's on next week

Thursday 10 th May	Year 7 Parents Evening
Sunday 13 th May	Lexicon Bracknell Half Marathon Water Station – volunteers welcome

Bracknell Lexicon Half Marathon

There is just over 1 week to go before the 2018 Lexicon Bracknell Half Marathon which takes place on Sunday 13th May 2018. This year is the first year that the half-marathon will start and finish at the Lexicon. This will mean that we need additional helpers for a slightly longer time this year: a few for set up and volunteers to Marshal and hand out water from 8.45 to 11.00am. It is always a lovely community event, if you have helped in previous years please come along and help us again this year. If not, students and parents, you would be most welcome to come along and help hand out water/sponges, it is great fun.

It would be really helpful for the organisation of the day if you could let me know if you intend to help by [completing our online form](#), emailing me on jmanisier@brakenhale.co.uk or calling and leaving a message with your name and the number of helpers coming with you on my direct line 01344 464793.

Here are some of the changes to previous years:

We are now water station 5, this is between miles 8 and 9. We have been asked to be set up and be ready by 8.30am and at our stations by 9.00am. The last runners should be through by 11am.

In addition to volunteers for the water station that will be outside the Coningsby Gate we will need Marshals for:

- 64: the underpass at Ingleton
- 65: the underpass at the Downside Hotel
- 66: the Bus link from Crowthorne Road to Downshire Way
- 67: Brakenhale water station
- 68: the footpaths at the rear of KFC
- 69: the footpath/cycle way south of the underpass



If you would specifically like to volunteer to Marshal at one of these points please let me know.

The runners will be running in an anti-clockwise direction, so will be approaching our marshal points/water station from the opposite direction to previous years, for us they will be approaching from Rectory Lane and heading towards the Sports Centre. They are using much of last year's course but there are some changes which means that the times at which the runners reach our point will also be different.

This year it is even more important that Marshals are in place and that drink stations are ready to go in plenty of time, by 9.00 am at the very latest. There will be official course marshals driving round to check all is in place ready to go.

This year all marshals will be issued with a fluorescent tabard which they should wear during the race (we have to return these). There will also be a limited stock of souvenir T Shirts available which you can keep.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Jo Manisier, on behalf of Brakenhale PTA

jmanisier@brakenhale.co.uk

01344 423041 (main reception)

01344 464793 (direct dial)

Clothes Recycling

Thank you to everyone who supported our **Clothes Recycling Initiative** and brought in old clothes, shoes and accessories to help raise money for the school and students. We collected in an amazing amount of bags this time – **505kg** and raised a well-deserved **£202** for the school. Well done to everyone who helped.

Globe Theatre Extravaganza

Super Brakenhale students honour the Bard's Birthday in style...

All those months ago, planning for the Year 7 students to design and create their own version of William Shakespeare's famous Globe theatre, seemed like a fitting way for the English department to do their part in recognising and celebrating The Bard's birthday on Monday 23rd April.

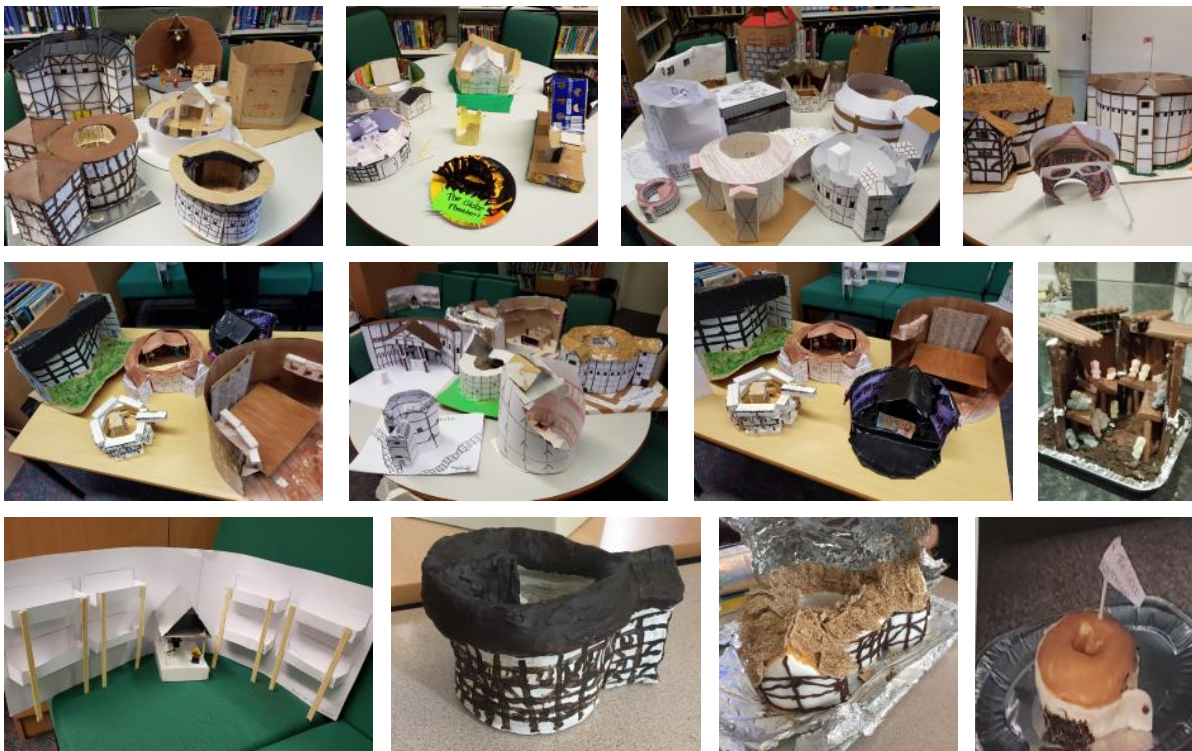
From experience, we knew we would receive a variety of models and maybe some drawings but nothing prepared us for the amazing array of creativity presented to us. There were models of different sizes in different colours, made from cardboard, Lego, paper, lollipop sticks, matchsticks, chocolate fingers, cake, Jenga, buckets, tissues, matchboxes – you name we had it, with no two alike.

In recognition of the high quality of work and time put the students put into this task, the English Department, with Mrs Daniels our fabulous Librarian, decided to have an exhibition of Globe Models in the LRC at lunchtime last week. Students who came along commented on the work, originality with many remarks heard such as 'Ooh look at this one', 'Wow, that's a really clever idea, and 'No way Year 7 did this!'

Similar responses came from staff who were overwhelmed and indeed Mr Cooper became quite emotional stating how 'proud' he was and how difficult it would be to select one winner from those received whilst Mrs Coley declared how 'absolutely amazing' the response and quality had been. Certainly, it was agreed that the display was 'simply marvellous' and testament to the pride and care that students put into their work every day.

Well done to everyone who participated and we hope you enjoyed taking part as much as we did seeing the result of your labours (although we would have liked the cakes to stay).

All participants, as listed below, will receive a letter from Mrs Coley thanking them for their contribution and the overall winners will be announced in the End of term KS3 assembly.



Happy Birthday William Shakespeare – Brakenhale's Year 7 students certainly honoured your memory this year.

Participants: Alex M, Tori S, Tegan W, Liberty G, Conor P, Cameron V, William J, Joshua M and Elliot H, Keira B, Daisy B, Fabian M, Ryan D, Gracie S, Annie K, Kyle W and Hayden M, Alex S, Oliver M, Alice S, Caitlin B and Eleanor W, Poppy C, Chloe E, Tia J, Victoria T, Damian J, Keira L, Daisy and Becky, Callum-James D, Ciaran C, Eloise M, Matthew D, Evelyn M and Tegan W, Brooke M, Alia A, Zander S, Henry C, Sophie H and Stacey S, Reece W, Millie C, Daisy B, Petra-Louise M, Jessica S, Alfie C, Ewan C, Scarlett H, Shanika Mai W, Edward B, Vincent, Amber R and Libby T, Bella and Courtney, Isaac Y, Shariyar A, Shahzain A, Abigail A, Jayden C, Georgia C, Kelis C, Ethan D, Chloe E, Alfie G, Elliot H, Clara H, Aleena H, James I, Ava M, Eloise M, Joshua M, Vincent N, Madison R, Mason R, Joshua R, Julia S, Nathan S, Chloe S, Scarlet W, Ellie Y.

Mrs Creswell, Head of English & Media

Dance

We would like to congratulate the following students on an amazing performance at the Lift Off Dance Festival this weekend. They were all fantastic and have worked so hard in rehearsals over the last few months in preparation. Some of these students also participated in the Duke of Edinburgh expedition on the Saturday beforehand so had very long weekends!!

Year 8 - Jack M, Ethan V, Thomas B, Zac B, Ciaran C, Jamie P, Teddy G

Year 9 - Emma W, Skye R

Year 10 - Lauren W, Emily C, Macey T, Charlotte B, Tiegan W, Ella A, Enya H, Caitlin H, Ellie S

Year 12 - Jess P, Kiera H, Jade A

Year 13 - Chloe J, Kieran W, Fay B

Alongside this our Sixth Form students, plus Jeffrey from Year 11, also performed a curtain raiser for professional dance company Tavaziva as part of the festival. They worked intensively with the company for two days to produce the work before performing. They were amazing and received lots of positive comments from the company and audience. Tavaziva dancer Nicole said:

"The Brakenhale Dance Students were a pleasure to work with. They were determined, motivated and attentive in embodying every aspect of Tavaziva's complex and intense movement style. Whilst teaching them on both occasions not only did they emit their physical energy but they were verbally and creatively willing to be involved within the process, giving both Bawren and I such inspiration for wanting to create and challenge them further. During the performance day they were very professional in their approach, giving their full attention to instructions and directions whilst on stage. They all presented their individual strengths and qualities as well as collectively executing a strong performance. Thank you all for your commitment and I wish you all the best for the future, keep dancing!"

Miss Haley, Head of Dance & Drama



PTA Summer Raffle

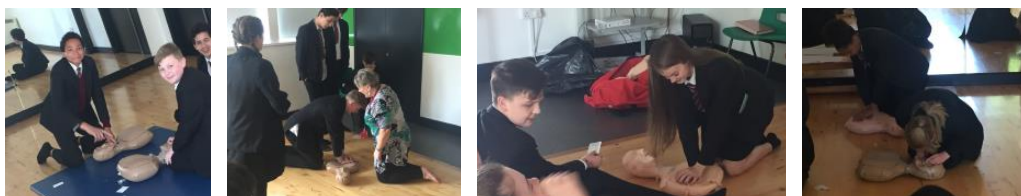
We will be running a raffle before half term. Please support the PTA and send in money with your child to purchase the raffle tickets. All proceeds go directly back into supporting the school. The price is £1 for a strip of 5 tickets and there will be a large sweet bag prize and a certificate for the 5 tutor groups or individual students who sell the most tickets.

Prizes include a large Cleaning Hamper and wine (on display in reception), foot-massager, Magner's gift pack, £20 National garden voucher and a box of chocolates.

Year 9 CPR Training

Each tutor group in Year 9 will get the opportunity to benefit from this experience as part of their PSHE lessons over the next few weeks. It is an exciting and worthwhile experience which may be of use if they ever need to put it into practice.

Everybody who completes the training successfully will also receive a certificate. Last week it was 9Rs turn to complete the CPR training course, instructed to them by Ms Ball, our school health coordinator. Have a look at some of the 9R students in action:



Miss O'Brien, Assistant Head of Year 9; Miss Ball, Health Coordinator

Brakenhale Rebuild

We need your help to raise £49,485 - by September 2019!!!!

At last it seems like the weather may be improving and I'm sure you will want to be outside and be active.

I have noticed that there are quite a few cycling events throughout the rest of this year that I ask you to look at <https://www.ukcyclingevents.co.uk/events/#region=SouthEast> and consider whether you would take part, with the aim of raising money for the new build project.

Let me know of other activities you may be thinking of and any support you need from us.

Karen Roche, Chair of the governing body

fundraising@brakenhale.co.uk



PE News

This week, we have seen a mixture of weather for our summer extra-curricular timetable with some of the clubs having to be taught inside! Hopefully next week, we will see some sun and slightly warmer weather. Our extra-curricular timetable is now in full swing, so please make sure students are attending as many clubs as possible.

Handball

This week, we had the U13 Girls Handball team attend a tournament at Surrey Sports Park. All of the students enjoyed the day and now have a new love for handball - so much so they are wanting to have more PE lessons, extra-curricular clubs and fixtures. The team consisted of a mixture of Year 7 and 8 students who had roughly had about 10 minutes experience of playing handball before we went. The first game was a real eye-opener for the girls about the pace, speed and contact of the game. By the second game we were warmed up and ready, and it was better than the first. With a little help from the referee giving us tactics and points, our third game was the best game we played and the girls started to look like a real handball team. Each game they played, they improved and worked on the tactics we discussed. I could not have been prouder of the team as they all put 100% effort in. They even wanted to stay to watch the final to pick up tips for next year and were working out how they were going to win!

We had some stand out players: Lily - who played in goal, she had some brilliant saves and even took a couple in the face! Becky - for being everywhere, she was always just a couple of seconds after that ball had been passed, giving the opponents issues when trying to pass. Carris - for encouraging the team when off the court and on, as well as giving her everything to stick with the players. Jess and Nadine - for consistently running up and down the court and giving the opponents grief.

Well done to all the players and watch this space for more Handball news!

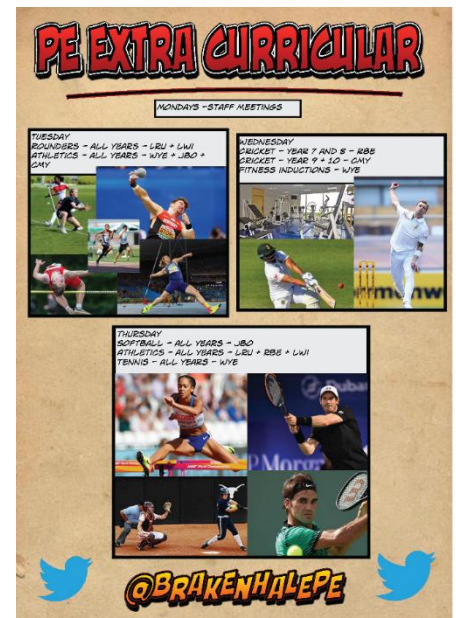
Athletics

We have a lot of athletics competitions coming up, including district sports. If students would like to be a part of the team please can they make sure they are at Athletics training on Tuesday or Thursday after school.

Fixtures next week:

Wednesday 9th May - U15 Boys and Girls Handball Regional Finals @ Surrey Sports Park

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





Feedback Initiative

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

We would like this to be an ongoing initiative and would encourage you to submit your views and feedback at anytime, we look forward to hearing from you regularly.

Ms Coley, Headteacher

FAB

Round-Up (27th April to 3rd May)

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

- ✓ I don't know if it's a coincidence, but students are more behaved now (now that the new behaviour system is put in place). I'd like to thank all the staff who helped with this amazing idea. The school is continuing to rapidly improve!
- ✓ Fab - Safe cycle scheme is brilliant and great to see the school encouraging cycling as a healthy means of transport. It's a great form of exercise for building fitness levels.


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"



Bracknell Cavaliers FC



Dear Parents/Carers

Bracknell Cavaliers is a great local long established football club which aims to cater for children of all ability levels, ages and backgrounds. The club is affiliated to the Football Association (FA) through our County – Berks and Bucks FA and is an FA Charter Standard Development Club. We are currently working hard towards FA Standard Charter Community Club, the highest level of accreditation for "grassroot" or community clubs.

Some of our teams are looking for football players to add to their teams, especially U12 year 7.

If your child is currently in these years or any others and is interested in joining a football team please contact:

- Mrs Jeanette Lovett (Bracknell Cavaliers FC Club Secretary) by email or mobile Jeanette.lovett@ntlworld.com or 07919275197

Mondays All Years




TEXTILES
STUDIO



3.10 to 4pm in CO6

Starting 16th April




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: AIS



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 gives parents a greater understanding of their young person and strategies to help manage situations which often occur during the 'teens'.



The next course starts on Friday 4th May 2018 for 10 weeks (not half-term)

<p>At the Open Learning Centre:</p> <p>Friday 4th May 9.30 to 11.00am Friday 11th May 9.30 to 11.30am Friday 18th May 9.30 to 11.30am Friday 25th May 9.30 to 11.30am</p>	<p>At Brakenhale:</p> <p>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</p>
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This course is being run by Brakenhale together with the Bracknell Family Intervention Team (FIT), which means we can offer places free of charge (normally £720 per parent). However places are limited so to avoid disappointment contact us on 01344 464793 or email us at jmanisier@brakenhale.co.uk

The Brakenhale School					
WEEK COMMENCING - 16 APR, 07 MAY, 04 JUNE, 25 JUNE, 16 JULY					
Week 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Hot Main Meal	British Farm Assured Beef Chilli Con Carne	British Farm Assured Chicken Jalfrezi Curry	British Farm Assured Honey Roast Gammon	British Farm Assured Beef Lasagne	MSC, British Seafood (Coastal) Battered Fish/ Cumberland Sausages/Chicken Nuggets
Hot Vegetarian Meal	Vegetarian Stroganoff	Cauliflower Cheese	Feta Cheese Roasted Pepper Frittata	Spinach and Ricotta Cannelloni	Veggie Pizza
Carbohydrate	Rice	Rice Naan Bread	Roast Potatoes	Garlic Bread Greek salad	Baked Chips
Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Peas, Baked Beans or Salad
Hot Pudding	Apple Sponge served with Custard	Belgium Waffles served with chocolate custard	Summer Fruit Trifle Cream	Chocolate Tart served with fresh cream	Vanilla Ice Cream

We have available every day

- Salad bar where you build your own salad
- Homemade bread

We use locally sourced ingredients when available and in season

All our menus are nutritionally analysed to ensure they meet and in most cases exceed The School Food Standards

Brakenhale Canteen

Please see our menu for next week.

On Thursday 10th May we will be having a Mexican themed day, please see our theme menu.

A normal meal deal costs £2.30, which includes a main meal and pudding. If students prefer just to have the main meal, this costs £1.90.



Mrs Silvey, Catering & Enrichment Manager

Current Vacancies

We have the following exciting opportunities at Brakenhale.

Please see the website for more details.

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

- Science Teacher
- Part time Art Teacher
- Maths Teacher
- English Teacher
- Head of Year
- Part time Finance Officer

Commercial Cleaning since 1972

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.

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)

Who?
Anyone is welcome from Year 7 to 13

Future Diary Dates

Wednesday 23rd May

Isle of Wight meeting, 6.30pm

Easy Fundraising!

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



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:

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

#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