



Dear Parents/Carers

The beginning of this week saw Book Look week for the Year 8s and the week ended with Year 8 Parents' Evening held last night. The turn-out was excellent and currently we have recorded an 80% attendance rate, although that figure will change as we collect further information. At the Parents' Evening we asked our parents to answer some questions regarding the effectiveness of our Book Look week which we moved to coincide with Parents' Evening based on feedback we received last year. Once again thank you for this information as we are able to use this to further improve and adapt.

Continuing on the theme of parental feedback, thank you to all the parents who took the time to respond to the question regarding students being allowed energy drinks at school. There was an overwhelming consensus that energy drinks should be banned from the school site and you will receive further communication regarding this.

As we get further into exam preparation, we do understand that for a number of students this is a very stressful and anxious time. In order to support young people our stress tapping workshops will begin again next week. This is the third year that we have used outside support for this strategy and it is always extremely well received.

We are very excited about our first all day rehearsal next Saturday for the whole school show which takes place in early February. We look forward to having a sneak preview of the hard work that students have put into this. Finally, on Sunday we have a reward trip for some of our PE students to a Basketball match.

Notable Students of the week:

Erin Axton in Year 10 who is an outstanding student and completes homework and classwork to the highest standard on all occasions. She consistently performs well in assessments and often stays back to have conversations on how to improve with her teachers. She always acts on the advice, going the extra mile to ensure she progresses! She is a kind and courteous student who will always help others!

Congratulations to Kieran West in Year 13 for getting into the Northern School of Dance; this is a huge achievement and very well deserved. Kieron is constantly willing to support students lower down the school with their dance and is a real team Brakenhale player.

Our staff member of the week is Miss Byers, Geography. A number of students nominated Miss Byers but this quote sums them all up – 'She is an awesome teacher who gets involved with the class and uses fun to engage us and to improve our learning.'

Our motivational quote for the week beginning January 22nd is 'Helping one person might not change the whole world, but it could change the world for one person'. Our assemblies next week will discuss the meaning of this quote, focusing on the need to be kind and supportive of each other, fostering our team Brakenhale ethos.

I hope you all have a restful weekend.

Jane Coley, Headteacher

What's on

Tuesday 23rd January

Assemblies led by Reading University

Current Vacancies

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

- Exam Invigilator

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

Parent Support Group
at Brakenhale

Friday 2nd February
1.30pm to 3pm

Please come and meet our Family Support Worker and other parents to discuss all aspects of living with teenagers. Refreshments will be provided.

Please come to main reception where Tracey Gosling, our Family Support Advisor will meet you.

Future Meeting Dates:

Monday 19th March ~ 9.30-11am
Wednesday 2nd May ~ 1.30-3pm
Wednesday 27th June ~ 9.30-11am

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High Expectations and Challenge for All

Brakenhale Presents...

SCHOOL of ROCK
THE MUSICAL

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

BASED ON THE PARAMOUNT MOVIE WRITTEN BY MIKE WHITE
MUSIC BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER LYRICS BY GLENN SLATER SCRIPT BY JULIAN FELLOWES

Performances in the main hall

Wednesday 7th February, 6pm
Thursday 8th February, 6pm

Tickets £2 each, available on Parent Pay

Vacancy for a Parent Governor

This is a very exciting time to be a member of our committed and friendly governing body. The school has become the first choice for parents in the community and is continuing to thrive within the Greenshaw Learning Trust. We are looking forward to the start of the new building programme and even more to its opening towards the end of 2019.

We have a vacancy for a parent of a student currently in Years 7 to 13 and I urge you to consider becoming part of our team. As a 'local governing body' within a multi-academy trust, we have fewer responsibilities than maintained schools. We meet only as a full governing body and do not have committees. This means that we meet as a whole group just six times a year. In addition we undertake activities as individuals or small teams of 'lead governors'.

There are many reasons why you might consider doing this. It is a great opportunity to 'give back' to the community that, as parents, you are part of for seven years of your child/children's lives. In addition, you will be involved in steering the future of the school and will gain a clear understanding of your child's education without relying on your son or daughter to tell you!

I seriously hope you will take the next step to find out more by contacting me at kroche@brakenhale.co.uk, or our clerk ddeykin@brakenhale.co.uk.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Karen Roche, Chair of Governors

Easy Fundraising!

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



PE News

This week has been a busy week for PE with a number of fixtures and the spring term extra-curricular clubs starting.

Please note that there are some changes to the extra-curricular timetable due to period 6 starting for Year 11 students.

- U13 Football will be moving to Tuesday
- U14 football will be moving to Thursday
- Handball will be on Wednesday Lunchtime
- There will be no GCSE or BTEC revision on Fridays

In addition to the above changes there will be no extra-curricular clubs on Thursday 25th January due to staff training.

Please see the new extra-curricular timetable here ⇨

Fixtures for Next Week

- Tuesday 23rd January - YA Meeting @ Garth 4-5pm
- Thursday 25th January - YA day @ Theale Green 9.30-3.30pm
- Friday 26th January - Year 10 Athletic Leaders and Year 7/8 Athletics @ Bracknell Leisure Centre 9.30-4pm

Reward Trip

On Sunday 28th January we will be taking our reward trip to the Barclaycard Arena in Birmingham for the Men's and Women's Basketball Final.

Sports Leaders

The Year 10 Sports Leaders were helping run the Year 5 and 6 Primary School Indoor Athletics event last Friday at Bracknell Leisure Centre. The group showed excellent leadership skills with the younger students and were a credit to the school. The group will be involved again in the next stage of the event on Friday 26th January. Well done to all of them for being excellent role models and representing the school superbly.

Football Update

Brakenhale U15 3 St Barts, Newbury 0

The Under 15s started their County Cup campaign against St Barts, Newbury on Tuesday evening at Brakenhale.

At 2.30pm on the day Mr Yeates had lost a total of 7 players from his squad due to injury or disciplinary problems. Come kick off at 4pm Year 10 had managed to scramble a squad together to face St Barts, Newbury!

The makeshift first 11 did their chances of permanent selection no harm at all with a solid 3-0 win against a strong opponent.

Reece P was man of the match with a hat trick in a great performance.

Final score U15's 3 : St Barts 0

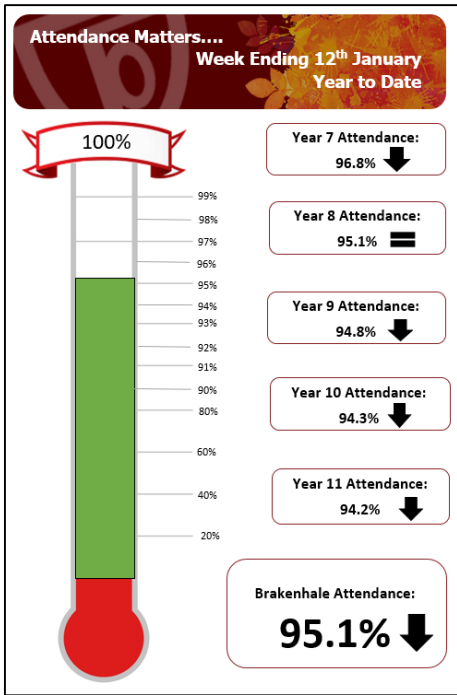
Miss L Willimott, Lead Coordinator of Girls PE and Teacher in Charge of Health and Social Care

Mr Yeates, Head of PE



Attendance

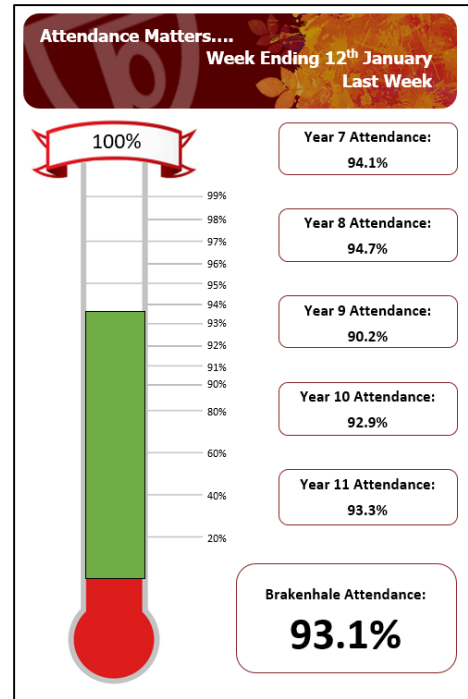
This Year so far



Thank you to all the parents who are sending the students in to school whilst they are feeling under the weather - this will have such a positive impact on their overall education.

Just a gentle reminder that students need only be off for 24 hours after the last time they were sick and that we are able to support students that are injured and unable to move around the school easily. Should this be a concern for your child please contact me to discuss making arrangements for them to be in school.

Last Week



As always thank you for your continued support. Please, if you are having any problems encouraging your child to school, do get in touch and we will support you in any way we can. Should you need support or help with any other issues that are affecting attendance then please do not hesitate to get in touch by telephone on 01344 465050 or by email on schoolattendance@brakenhale.co.uk

Mrs Evans, Attendance Office

School Lottery

Don't forget to join up and purchase your tickets to start helping our school. If you haven't signed up now would be the time. This is an easy way to help us to make money for the school and be in with a chance for winning. Thank you to all who have bought tickets and who continue to support the school.

So far we have raised...

Since we launched the lottery in March last year we have raised the fantastic amount of **£976** for the school.



Why not join today and not only will you be in with a chance of winning in the weekly prize draws but you will be helping to raise money for the school at the same time.

Click here to [Support the Brakenhale Lottery](#)

Our School Lottery is a fun and effective way to raise money to help improve our school but we need your help to make it the best it can be.

Why not join now!

your school lottery supporting **BRAKENHALE**
High Expectations & Challenge for All

JOIN TODAY & YOU COULD WIN A FITBIT!

New Year, New Resolution – Buy a lottery ticket to support our School!

- Join our weekly, online lottery and you could Win a Fitbit this term!
- Our school receives 40% of all ticket sales!
- A GUARANTEED cash prize to one of our supporters every week!
- Tickets cost £1 per week!
- Help us raise valuable money to enhance our school this year.

To start supporting, visit: www.yourschoollottery.co.uk

Search for: **Brakenhale**

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older
* Terms and Conditions apply - See website

Future Diary Dates

Thursday 1 st February	Year 9 Options Evening
Friday 2 nd February	Parent Support Group Meeting, 1.30-3pm
Wednesday 7 th February	Whole School Show – School of Rock
Thursday 8 th February	Whole School Show – School of Rock
Monday 12 th to Friday 16 th February	Half Term

Term Dates 2017-18

SPRING TERM 2018

Term dates for students:
 Wednesday 3rd January to Thursday 29th March
 Spring Half Term – Monday 12th to Friday 16th February
 Easter Holiday – Friday 30th March to Friday 13th April

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

Bracknell Forest term dates can be found on their website:
<http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schooltermandholidaydates>

#challengeforall

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