

Brakenhale School

End of Year Parent News

19th July 2019



Dear Parents/Carers

What an end to a fantastic academic year.

On Monday the Brilliant club held an end of term celebration and enjoyed pizza and some well deserved accolades. We also held our annual Art and Technology exhibition, and if you managed to attend you will have seen some truly amazing pieces of art and design work. Our students have worked incredibly hard to achieve the level that they have - I have even reserved a piece of work for my own wall!

On Tuesday we held the Summer awards which was the perfect opportunity to congratulate students who have achieved amazing results. These range from academic to sports and they had the opportunity to hear our visiting speaker Mrs Natalie Mitchell from Waitrose, who gave a fantastic speech on motivation. We have also had lots of other opportunities this week to reward so many of our hardworking, committed and dedicated students. Year 9 and 10 students were treated to a reward picnic, Year 8 students had a film afternoon and continuing on this theme, the top achievers across all year groups got to see a screening of Toy Story 4 at the local cinema, organised by Mr Thomas. Our Year 7 students had a very different and very innovative event, their very own Oscars. Mr Hilton and Miss Turner, along with all the Year 7 tutors, put on their black tie outfits, laid out our very own red carpet and presented a range of awards to students who had shown commitment, effort and kindness across the year.

The middle of the week did not get any quieter with our Year 10 students visiting Thorpe Park. They all had a thoroughly good time and it was lovely to see them having some relaxation and fun after all their hard work this year. We also had some of our performing arts students travel into London to see Wicked, although they were delayed on their return they all thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

I would like to say thank you to all the staff who have given their time to accompany students on all of these trips and in advance to those that are already being planned for the next 18 months.

Lastly, today we held our final assembly. We managed to get all of the students and staff together in the Sports Hall where awards were given and speeches were made. Mr George won the student and parent 'Staff member of the year' award. He was absolutely thrilled and very surprised but I think we would all agree a very worthy winner. We finished the end of term extravaganza with our newly formed staff band accompanying our fantastic staff singing their very own rendition of an Oasis classic - Wonderwall! They would definitely have given the Gallagher brothers a run for their money!

Student of the week:

Jamie Brazier Year 12 - Aply supported by Ewan Gennery and Robbie Harrison, Jamie has produced a fantastic video to help raise money for the school, watch this space for the big reveal happening very soon.

Fab and Drab feedback this week is as follows:

Fab:

- ✓ How lovely to hear some positives from Miss Wilkins, my son's maths teacher. My son struggles with school and it is nice to hear some positive comments instead of teachers focusing on negative ones, what a shame she is leaving 😞
- ✓ I was impressed with the school and staff and the way things are done ever since my son has been with you but my daughter is different to him and she struggles and seeing how the staff deal with that impressed me even more. I'm glad they got the feedback as they do an amazing job, as do all of your staff.
- ✓ Fantastic you offer so many after school clubs - would be nice to have a music after-school club.
- ✓ Being able to vote for staff of the year but have to say I think everyone who works at your school deserves this vote.



- ✓ Letting us say what we think is fab and what is drab - this is fab.
- ✓ The recognition trips for well behaved students etc. - this is brilliant and it's so good to see a school focus on the well-mannered and well behaved children! Thank you so much.
- ✓ Lots of awards on the last week of term.
- ✓ Fabulous Sports Day today.
- ✓ Lost property department respond straight away, even during the evening. Items being returned. Thank you to all in this department.
- ✓ Our child in Year 7 came home with a message slip from another child listed on top "be kind". This was a real boost and a lovely thing to do, encourages kindness in the school. She also got a house point with it. Thank you Year 7, great step forward for Brakenhale.
- ✓ Thank you, our son really enjoyed being part of the Year 7 Oscars this week and taking part in the sponsored walk for the school. He is also looking forward to the cinema trip tomorrow. Thank you Mr Hilton and Year 7 team.
- ✓ We were told that in tutor the class were asked to write a thank you postcard to any member of staff they would like to thank. We are so delighted that students are given this opportunity in school to be able to thank the amazing staff at your school personally. This comes with a BIG thank you from us as a family to all the staff. Have a FAB summer holiday.

Drab:

Students being out late is really not acceptable, Year 10 sports day delayed students getting out on time! Why not finish the event earlier so this does not happen! There is no exception for students arriving late in the morning therefore the school shouldn't keep them late. 5 minutes may not seem long to some people but it is a lifetime when you're waiting and worrying.

- *I am very sorry for any inconvenience that this caused you, we are reviewing our timings of the Sports Day event.*

Fab so much going on but PGL, sponsored walks, sports day, dance show, all within the same week is a lot for anyone, exhausting. Would have been nice spread out a bit.

- *I absolutely understand what you are saying, the difficulty is that trying to run these events earlier in the year when students are preparing for exams and then sitting them is impossible. This time of year releases staff from exam classes and enables us to have the adult supervision required.*

Books often not marked, only in some subjects. Would be nice to see marked books and feedback to guide & help our children at home.

- *This is an area that I know we need to continue to work on and we have some new strategies in place for next year. Please do message me directly with any specific concerns.*

My daughter got a behaviour point on gateway for uniform. Looking at a lot of other girls going to school in trainers and really short skirts, I think is really unfair. Same rule should apply to all.

- *Any student caught with non regulation or non compliant uniform faces a consequence.*

After getting an email today saying Brakenhale is a cashless school and will no longer be able to accept cash for lunch, I understand the whole finger scanning, great idea but for my children it is convenient for us to send money in for lunch payments when needed. I presume if it is a cashless school they won't be able to bring in cash all the time to support cake, lolly, cookie, raffle and any other sales.

- *I do understand your frustration as my own child's school has recently also adopted this policy. The problem is that with over 1000 students it is very difficult to administrate cash coming in on a daily basis and we simply do not have the staffing to manage this. Charity events are one offs and the administration of the cash is overseen by volunteer students and staff.*

Staff members of the week:

Ms Douse	She is amazing, very respectful and always sticks to her word...my daughter speaks so fondly of her! Fabulous teacher
Miss Wilkins	For being such a positive member of staff, well done 😊👍
Miss Theal	Helping with uniform in school and coming away at the weekend on the school trip.
Mrs Gosling	She will always help me as soon as she can even when she is busy.
Mrs Harris	Mrs Harris always makes sure that I am ok and even when she walks past me she says hello.

Miss Caiafa An excellent contribution, providing an effective link with industry for the Brakenhale Careers Day.

Staff Leavers

At this time of year it is always with regret that we say goodbye to some of our wonderful colleagues and this year is no exception.

- Mrs Wilkins will be leaving us to take up a new role at Collingwood, she has been a real support to so many of our students and we wish her all the best in her new role.
- Mrs Lowe, leaves us to take up a promotion as Head of Department and we want to thank her and wish her luck in her post.
- Mr Bailey, Mr Rees, Mr Bell and Mr O'Donoghue, all leave us to relocate to be closer to their immediate families in Sussex, Hampshire, West Midlands and Ireland respectively. I would like to thank them all for their contributions to the Science, Maths and Business departments. Specifically, to Mr Bell for his leadership in the house system and of the LGBT group and to Mr O'Donoghue for his unending support and care of the Year group that he led from Year 7 to Year 11, we wish them all the best in their moves.
- Mrs Lewis, a most amazing TA, who has dedicated herself to the students of Brakenhale for 17 years. This is an amazing achievement and we wish her all the very best in her retirement.

We have a range of superb professionals joining us in September.

- Ms Lane, Business and Careers, joins us from Windsor Boys School.
- Miss Bunkell, Head of History, joins us from The Abbey School.
- Mrs Myers, Maths department, joins us from the primary sector.
- Mr Smith, Business studies, joins us from the corporate sector.
- Mr Bissett, Cover Supervisor, joins us from Cove High School.
- Mrs Bradley, English teacher, is joining us from John Madjeski.
- Mrs Pillay, Science teacher, who has been working at a local independent school.
- Mr Ives, Maths teacher, who is joining us after working for two years at an international school in China.

Quote of the week: 'Call me crazy but I quite like to see other people happy and succeeding. Life is a journey, not a competition.'

A few housekeeping bits for the school holidays. We will be closed until September 2nd when staff return although students do not return until Wednesday 4th September. The building works will continue in earnest throughout the holidays and I urge all parents and students to be aware that the site may not be safe during this time. Our A Level results day will be on Thursday 15th August and our GCSE results day is on Thursday 22nd August. Please see the website for specific details and timings.

Finally, a huge thank you to all of you for your ongoing support of the school. 2018-19 has been an incredible year for #teambrokenhale with our wonderful Ofsted and the School of the Year award from the Pride of Bracknell. We look forward to similar successes in 2019-20.

I wish you all a restful summer and I look forward to seeing you all in September when we can start counting down to our new build!

Best wishes.

Jane Coley, Headteacher

What's on next week

Thursday 15 th August		GCE Results Day – 9am Year 13, 10.30am Year 12, main hall
Thursday 22 nd August		GCSE Results Day – 10am Year 11, 10.30am Year 10, main hall
Monday 2 nd , Tuesday 3 rd September		Inset Days
Wednesday 4 th September		First Day of term for students

Pen Recycling Initiative

Have you got old pens, felt tips, board markers just lying around not working, taking up space and cluttering your area?

No longer do they need to go in the general waste, We have a solution!

Please gather them all up and take them to the **Staff Room** or give them to **your tutor**.

BIC will recycle them for us! With their Terracycle scheme - your pens and markers will be made into benches and bins etc.

ALL PEN BRANDS ACCEPTED.

What **can** you recycle?

PENS, FELT TIPS, HIGHLIGHTERS, MARKERS, MECHANICAL PENCILS, CORRECTION FLUID, CORRECTION TAPE, FOUNTAIN PENS, INK CARTRIDGES.

What **CAN'T** you recycle?

Glue Sticks, Rubbers, Rulers, wood pencils, sharp objects.

Eco Club



Performing Arts News

Dance Workshops

This week and last we have had past student Kieran West return to teach a range of dance works to our Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 students. Kieran is currently studying at Northern Contemporary Dance School and worked with students on technique, improvisation and skill building activities.

National Youth Dance Company

Year 13 student Jade Ackuaku completes her nationwide tour with the National Youth Dance Company this Saturday at Salder's Wells, London. She is one of a small company of dancers selected from auditions across the UK at the start of the year to work with choreographer Botis Seva to create and tour a professional dance work. We are incredibly proud of Jade who will be continuing her studies at Northern School of Contemporary Dance next year.



Wicked Trip

We had the pleasure of taking 50 students from across Year 7 to 13 to see hit musical Wicked on Wednesday. Students were impeccably well behaved and demonstrated such maturity. A big thank you to all the parents who have supported the trip despite the changes and a few problems - we really appreciate it and hope all the students had a fantastic time!

Mr C Duffy, Head of Performing Arts

Art, Photography and Technology

Art, Photography and Technology Exhibition

On Monday evening, we got to showcase the amazing work of our Year 11, 12 and 13 students from their GCSE, BTEC and A Level studies in Art, Photography and Product Design. Everyone who attended commented on the talent of our students and how stunning their work looked. It takes a lot of work to set up an exhibition and we could not have done it without the help from a number of post-16 students, so I wanted to take the opportunity to say thank you to Charlotte H, Harrison H, Jade D and Liv H for their help and hard work.

Mr Thomas said: *'The quality is absolutely superb and a huge credit to the staff and students.'*



Brakenhale wins THRIVE! Competition

As part of the NHS long term plan to support children through mental health and wellbeing provision, Bracknell Forest Borough Council are in the process of developing their THRIVE! website. Earlier this year, they launched a competition for local schools to produce art work that could be used on their website to illustrate a number of themes. Students in Key Stage 3 were given the opportunity to create their own piece of art, in response to the theme they were most interested in, demonstrating their individual creativity and independence. I am very pleased and proud to say that a number of our students won in each of the categories. Katherine Davies from BFBC said "we were so impressed with all the art work we have decided to add a gallery section to the website where we will upload them all".

The winners for each section were: Oral Health - Maryam A-F (Y7), Sexual Health and Relationships - Eva H (Y7), Healthy Relationships and Abuse in Relationships - Ella-Mae G (Y9) and Annalise B (Y7), Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing - Erica Rodrigues/Brooke Summer (Y9), Smoking - Sean Hawkins/Charlie Humphery (Y7).

As soon as the website is up and running, we'll publish the link! All students will also be receiving a certificate from Bracknell Forest Borough Council in the near future.

Miss T Wilhelmy, Teacher in Charge of Art & Photography

PE Update

How are we at the end of the year! It feels like yesterday that we were playing rugby and netball let alone all the Rounders and cricket fixtures. We have had a busy and successful year this year and we are looking forward to a rest before another successful year.

The PE dept would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has taken part in an extra-curricular club or fixture this year, you have all been brilliant! We have already started planning the extra curricular timetable for next year and have fixtures booked in! We also have lots more planned for next year with Girls Active and more Reward Trips!

A special mention needs to go to our **Sports Men/Women** of the year:

Lily Snape, Kelis Cupid, Hristina Mihalkova, Victoria Mitchell, Ronnie Alder-Warrington, Josh Rudge, Jay James and Aaron Read.

Congratulations to these students as you have shown real dedication this year to the PE department.

Half Term 6 - Sporting Stars!

The following students, all from Year 7, have committed to after school clubs this half term and have been duly awarded their #brakenhalesport t-shirts:

Daniel Vincent, Rylley Turnbull and Ollie Axton

Well done boys, a superb effort from you all this half term! Wear your t-shirts with pride and remember they can be worn in lessons as well.

Just one more thing, make sure you all have a rest and enjoyable summer. Make sure you are safe as we do not want anyone to come back with any broken bones!

The PE Department,

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

Mr Potter, Head of PE



Latest Fundraising Venture

Some of our students have been lucky enough to be chosen to participate in the AQA 'Unlocking Potential' scheme in partnership with the Dame Kelly Holmes Trust. They were mentored by a great professional boxer - Hannah Beharry - who helped them build up their confidence and helped them achieve their goals by coaching them to have the ideas and create a video to raise much needed funds for our new school build.

Please consider making donations to purchase equipment that is desperately needed for our new building.

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/brakenhalevideo/feedback?utm_term=QZMAdZEqV

Kerith Centre Thursday Lunch Club

Free Thursday packed lunch in August at the Kerith Centre in the summer holidays

For any child on pupil premium the Kerrith Centre is:

Running 5 lunch clubs on Thursdays in August for children who would normally receive a free school meal in term time. All their volunteers will be DBS checked and they hope to provide a fun, safe environment for youngsters to have lunch and enjoy a couple of hours together.

Purpose? to offer students who would normally eat a free School Meal a lunch and some space to chill.

Where? K2 at the Kerith Community Church, Church Road, Bracknell, RG12 1EH

When? Thursdays in August from 12noon until 2pm

School Dining Hall

The School Dining Hall is open daily for all students as follows:

7.45 - 8.30

Breakfast which includes:

Fresh Fruit / Yoghurt bar / Cereals / Bacon or Sausage Rolls / Danish Pastries / Hot Chocolate

11.00 – 11.25 Break-time

1.25 – 2.05 Lunch-time

3.05: Any unsold food may be purchased at half price by cash or account

Our in-house caterers have a fresh approach to food and we have a number of different meal deals and a hot school meal, which includes either a drink or a pudding.

A selection of sandwiches, pizza slices, salad and pasta are also available and we have Meat-Free Mondays.

More information and sample menus are available on www.brakenhale.co.uk/pastoral-support/parent-zone/

	Price	
	Small/Normal	Large
CANTEEN PRICE LIST 2019/2020		
MEALS		
Soup of the Day	£1.05	
Soup with Bread Roll	£1.25	
Main Meal	£2.10	
Meal Deal	£2.50	
Jacket Potato + 1 Filling		
Jacket Potato + 2 Filling		
Salad Pot	£1.25	£2.00
Pasta King	£1.30	£2.00
Yogurt Bar	£1.25	£2.00
Fruit Salad/Cold Dessert/ Jelly Pot	£1.00	
Hot Pudding	£0.75	
SNACKS		
Pizza	£1.20	
Paninis	£1.80	
Beef/Chicken/Veggie Burger	£1.55	
Hot Wraps	£1.55	
Chicken Nuggets/Popcom	£1.55	
Hot Dogs	£1.55	
Lamb Kebab	£1.55	
Bagels	£1.55	
Chicken Wings Pot	£1.55	
Potato Wedges	£0.80	
Waffles	£0.60	
Cookies	£0.50	
DRINKS		
Cold Drinks Range	From £0.50 to £0.80	
Hot Drinks	£1.00	
Frutina	£0.80	£1.00



Please note that the price of a meal deal will be £2.50 from September.

The Admissions Department of Bracknell Forest Council handles the authorisation and administration of Free School Meals. If you think your son/daughter may qualify, please complete the Bracknell Forest Council application form via the link below.

<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-meals/how-do-i-apply-free-school-meals>

It is worthwhile applying for Free School Meals entitlement even if your child does not require a school lunch because your son/daughter may receive financial assistance with other school related expenses.

Taz Asran, Chef Manager - kitchen@brakenhale.co.uk

Brakenhale PTA School Lottery

Congratulations to the prize draw winners this week.

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.

Attendance

We believe that high attendance is essential in order for students to make good academic progress and to feel that they are active members of the school community, involved not only in lessons but also in the extra-curricular activities that are so important to their wellbeing. Students can keep track of their attendance in their planner.

Attendance Matters...

Week Ending 12th July 19

Period 03/09/2019 to 12/07/19

Year Group	%
Year 7	95.6 %
Year 8	94.1 %
Year 9	94.5 %
Year 10	94.9 %
Year 11	95.9 %

Brakenhale Attendance
Year to Date 94.9 %

Brakenhale Attendance Year to Date

Attendance Matters...

Week Ending 12th July 2019

Period 08/07/19 - 12/07/19

Year Group	%
Year 7	92.3 %
Year 8	88.9 %
Year 9	91.7 %
Year 10	92.8 %
Year 11	0.0 %

Brakenhale's Overall
Attendance for Period:
08/07/19 - 12/07/19 91.4 %

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss any issues that may be preventing regular attendance or causing lateness, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Silvey, Attendance Officer

Maths Puzzle & Countdown

The diagram shows five numbered counters arranged to be a multiplication sum whose answer is 7874. Rearrange the counters to give the largest possible answer to the multiplication.

Largest answer is given by :-

$$\begin{array}{r} 431 \\ \times 52 \\ \hline 22412 \end{array}$$

Ms L Harbour, Maths Teacher

Feedback Initiative

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

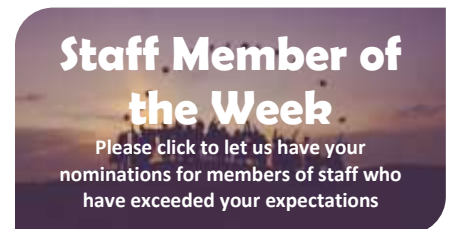
Electronic submission:



[Fab](#)



[Drab](#)



[Staff Member of the Week](#)

Ms Coley, Headteacher

Easy Fundraising

With easyfundraising.org.uk you collect free donations to your selected cause every time you shop. You can make a big difference on everything from groceries to getaways and it doesn't cost you a penny!

When you shop the easyfundraising way with one of their 3083 shops and sites they give easyfundraising a commission for your purchase which is turned into a donation for your selected good cause.

When you visit the website easyfundraising.org.uk - simply search for the retailer you want to shop with and click out to them using the green 'Go Shopping' button. You will be taken straight to the retailer's website and your experience will be identical as if you had gone there directly but easyfundraising will be able to track your purchase to ensure a donation for your good cause.

You can also install their Donation Reminder - this means a box will appear if you are shopping with a retailer who participates in the Donation Reminder and you don't even need to visit the easyfundraising site! All you need to do is click Activate Donations and any eligible purchase will be recorded for you. Take a look at the Donation Reminder [here](#). The Donation Reminder is supported by Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer and Safari but can't work on mobile phones or tablets.

Shopping on your mobile? No problem, for mobile phones and tablets there is the handy easyfundraising App, perfect if you like to shop on the go and available completely free of charge from your App store. Now you can not only shop using it but you can check out your own donation total and see how your cause is getting on too. More information can be found [here](#).

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



Future Events and Notices



Weekend Astro Pitch Deal



Brakenhale School would like to offer local sports clubs reduced weekend rates on our sand filled astro pitch. We offer Half and Full pitch rentals
Please Contact:
apecock@brakenhale.co.uk
to find out more!



National Online Safety
7 questions to help you start a conversation with your child about online safety

1. What are your child's favourite apps and websites?
2. What do you think your child's favourite app or website is for?
3. How do you think your child's favourite app or website is used?
4. Do you think your child's favourite app or website is safe?
5. Do you know what your child's favourite app or website is for?
6. Do you know what your child's favourite app or website is for?
7. Do you know your child's favourite app or website is for?

Put a spring in your step this New Year at Blaze Martial Arts



Free trial lessons! Come down and try it. No obligation. Get a free uniform when you join.

Come along, make friends, learn a new skill and have some fun!

- Established 16 years
- Improve fitness, stamina, coordination and flexibility
- Classes in Acoft, Windsor, Stockwell & Wokingham
- Help confidence, respect and self discipline in children
- Dedicated classes for all ages
- Highly qualified instructors
- Learn to defend yourself!

Telephone us: 01344 874031
www.blazemartialarts.com




Brakenhale Bugle

Providing you with all the school news

We are recruiting!

Are you passionate about writing? Do you enjoy keeping up to date with current school news? Do you want to be a part of something new and dynamic?

If the answer is yes, then the Newspaper team needs you!

Come along to C14 Tuesday lunchtimes
ALL WELCOME




text YM to 85258

YOUNG MINDS Crisis Messenger


YM aim to connect every texter to a trained volunteer in less than 5 minutes to provide support in a crisis. They will listen to you and help you think through how you're feeling, and will aim to help you take the next steps towards feeling better.

Free, 24/7 crisis support across the UK.

Text on free 116 123 333 (Worthing, Epsom, Stockley, St. Albans, St. Paul's, Royal Holloway and Telecom Plus)

Please contact us for more information: www.youngminds.org.uk

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Spread the word: share with teachers, school staff and parents - the more entries for your school, the higher the chance they'll win!

Inspiring a lifelong love of reading

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Future Diary Dates

* Please note that all events may be subject to change

Thursday 12th September

Year 11 Information Evening

Photographer in school for school photos

Thursday 19th September

Year 6 Open Evening

Term Dates

Term Dates 2019-20

AUTUMN TERM 2019

Term dates for students:

(Inset Days: Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September)

Wednesday 4th September to Friday 13th December

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

Last day of Autumn Term for students – Friday 13th December

(Inset Day: Monday 16th December)

Christmas Holiday: Tuesday 17th December to Wednesday 8th January 2020 *

**Extra school closure days in December and January for the transition into the new building*

SPRING TERM 2020

Term dates for students:

Thursday 9th January to Friday 3rd April

Spring Half Term – Monday 17th to Friday 21st February

Last day of Spring Term for students – Friday 3rd April

Easter Holiday: Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April

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

SUMMER TERM 2020

Term dates for students:

Monday 20th April to Friday 17th July

Summer Half Term – Monday 25th to Friday 29th May

(Bank Holiday – Friday 8th May and Monday 25th May)

Last day of Summer Term for students – Friday 17th July

(Inset Days: Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st July)

Bracknell Forest term dates can be found on their website:

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



#challengeforall

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High Expectations and Challenge