



Dear Parents/Carers

We are now at the end of a fantastic half term and I think everyone is looking forward to a rest over the holiday!

This week we have undertaken a number of trips and these have included the following:

- Year 13 students Geography trip to Bracknell on Monday and Tuesday;
- Trip to the building site as part of Design and Technology on Monday and Thursday;
- '5 Soldiers' at South Hill Park on Tuesday.

We are very proud that our students are getting more enrichment opportunities and we plan on continuing in this way. Next half term, we have trips to the sculpture museum, Reading University science department, Oxford Brookes University, Student Voice at the Houses of Parliament, Reading Crown Court and the Winchester Science Planetarium for Year 7 and a continued programme of visits to the building site.

On Tuesday and Wednesday we held the Year 9 Parents evening. Holding the evening over two days has resulted in more parents being able to attend and the feedback has been incredibly positive.

When we return the week after half term we get straight into a very busy period. We will be holding sixth form interviews on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. We also have our much awaited show 'We Will Rock You' – our staff and students have been working incredibly hard on this and I know will be in over half term to rehearse, we are very much looking forward to seeing the results.

During half term we will also be holding a number of study sessions for our Year 11 students and we would urge you to encourage your children to attend these wherever possible.

We are very pleased to report that we have appointed two new members of staff to support our students in the Student Support Centre (SSC), James Brader and Andrew Bury. Both come with a wealth of experience which yet again proves that Brakenhale School is a place that attracts some excellent staff.

Our Finance and Facilities Managers met with members of the local community last week to discuss parking. Please could I ask you to respect our local neighbours by not blocking their driveways or parking on them. Furthermore, in order to protect the environment please could I request that you turn engines off whilst you are waiting for students to come out from school. I hugely appreciate your support in this matter.

Student of the week:

Logan Knapp in Year 7 – Logan recently performed in Macbeth at South Hill Park and was fantastic. His great acting skills showed his commitment and passion.

Ella Brigden and Chloe Hawkins in Post 16 – for baking and selling cakes to raise money for the British Heart Foundation, raising a total of £220.50 by the students wearing a red item and for the bake sale. It had been completely organised and run by the Sixth Form Student Leadership team.

Luis Bhutta Year 11 – for supporting a student in the lower school who was having some problems.

FAB feedback this week:

- Thanks to everyone at Team Brakenhale for a fantastic Options Evening, during the presentation you've taken a complex topic and broken it down in easy to digest pieces of information, and all the teachers we spoke to were engaged, enthusiastic and well-humoured. A great job!
- I have twin boys in Year 9 and was unable to attend both parents evenings so after an email to the school, I was well supported and appointments to see both boys' teachers in 1 evening was arranged. I was so impressed in the swift action that was taken to help as raising twins really can have its challenges!
- The Assemblies you hold at Brakenhale are powerful and invaluable to the students. Our son often talks of the assemblies in great detail and shares with family. He is very proud to be part of Brakenhale. Thank you. Year 7 Parent.

- A nice touch for our child in Year 7 and many others to receive a personal letter from Headteacher to congratulate them on a great progress report. A great push forward for continued progress. Thank you
- The Year 9 options evening was amazing. Very informative and interesting and well organised! Well done.
- Splitting the parents evening over 2 nights was excellent.

DRAB feedback this week:

We do things for the school and certain groups and we never get any recognition for how well we do.

- *I am very sorry to hear this, please contact me directly with specific details and I will do all I can to change this.*

My kids would like meals from the canteen but when they go the queue is always too long and when they get something they never have enough time to eat their lunch. This has been going on since Year 7.

- *I am sorry to hear this, we are regularly monitoring the situation with the queue. I have now purchased two vending machines for cold drinks and food, and these will be arriving in the next 2-3 weeks. I am hoping that this will alleviate the problems with the queue until we move into the new build.*

PE bags too small for all kit required. School bags and PE bags do not last very long and are not waterproof.

- *I met with the suppliers last week and we are now looking at a waterproof schoolbag. I am happy to look into larger PE bags.*

Reading student news today I have noticed a reminder to parents about show my homework, there has been a few times in the last couple of weeks teachers haven't put my daughter's homework on show my homework. We check no homework then she gets into trouble having not done it so where does she stand if it's not put on there in the first place. From a parent of a very worried student.

- *I am really sorry that your child has been worried about this, I will remind staff again. Please feel free to contact me with specific details so that I can chase up individuals. Be assured, that no child will face consequences if a homework was not posted in the first place.*

Parents evening finishes at 6:30pm, most people work until between 5/6pm which means we don't have ample opportunity to attend. Also when we do attend there seems to be no organisation and is carnage in the hall. The appointments are for 5 minutes but they take way longer for some people which means all the others are delayed, and 5 minutes isn't enough time for some classes and feels rushed. My daughter has been at Brakenhale for 3 years and I have attended every other parents evening other than year 9 and only seen about 5 teachers.

- *We have listened to parent feedback regarding parents evenings and this year have made some significant changes as follows:*
 - *All teachers are now based in classrooms and the Sixth Form centre to alleviate the packed nature of the hall;*
 - *All appointments are now made online which we have found to be a much more efficient system;*
 - *Parents evening is now split across two nights to give more opportunity for all parents to meet with any teacher that they need to see.*

Some sort of indication of when the 5 minute time slots for parents evening was complete. We found ourselves there longer than needed, as people without appointments were jumping in or people were longer than 5 minutes meaning the schedule was out for other teachers. We had to miss 2 teachers completely.

- *This is really useful feedback which I will reflect on and try to find a solution for.*

Staff member of the week:

- ✓ All the teachers who worked during Options Evening - In our experience every single teacher was engaged, communicative and well prepared. They answered all of our questions and were unfailingly smiling and approachable. Thanks to you all!
- ✓ Mr George - Really approachable and engaging.
- ✓ Miss Byers - Honestly the best teacher ever!! Brilliant lessons and always helps me no matter what.
- ✓ Miss Rushby - Being very supportive and going above and beyond her job emailing late at night. Furthermore being a supportive Head of Year when times have been difficult - thank you.

- ✓ Miss Wilhelmy - She's an amazing teacher that inspires me and helps me in lesson and makes sure my work is produced to the best of my ability.
- ✓ Mr O'Donoghue - Amazing support on Revision weekend. Always around to help, no matter what it was however big or small. Best Head of Year Ever.
- ✓ Mr O'Donoghue - Making the revision trip fun. Keeping us going so we can do our best this year.
- ✓ Mr O'Donoghue - Makes maths fun, especially on the revision weekend. Loved it. Can we do another one?
- ✓ Mrs Gibbons - Always willing to help and is willing to answer questions.
- ✓ Miss Rendall - For always helping in English class and giving my son the confidence to keep going.
- ✓ Mrs Clark - She's so positive and helpful when you're feeling down and discouraged.
- ✓ Mr Kingston - Always available and helpful - no matter what day of the week or time of the day.

Motivational quote for next week:

'Choose Joy! Don't wait for things to get easier, simpler, better. Life will always be complicated. Learn to be happy right now. Otherwise, you will run out of time.'

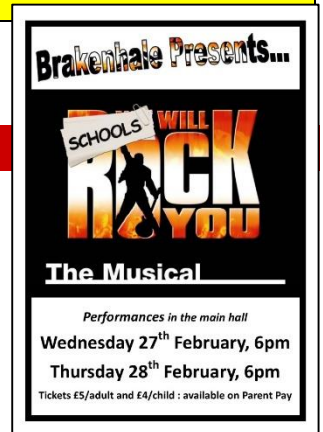
Have a lovely half term, stay safe and for our Year 11 and Post 16 students make sure you relax but also factor in some study time!

Jane Coley, Headteacher

Could we please ask parents to check that all items of kit and uniform are those of their own child, and if anything has accidentally been taken home that is not yours could you please ensure it is returned to school to be reunited with its owner. Many thanks

What's on next week

- Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February : **Half Term**
 Wednesday 27th February : **We Will Rock You Performance, 6pm**
 Thursday 28th February : **We Will Rock You Performance, 6pm**
 Tickets on sale via ParentPay
 Tickets are £5 per adult and £4 per child.

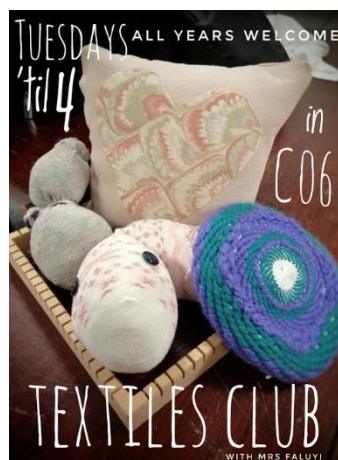


Year 9 Options

With our Options and Parents Evenings behind us, it is now down to some conversations with family to make option choices which will take our Year 9 students into the next steps of their education. The final date for submission of choices is Thursday 28th February.

Please ensure your son/daughter has discussed all of the option choices with their teachers and that they can access the Sims Online Services email. The address comes from noreply@sims.co.uk so if you cannot see it in your inbox please check your spam folders. If you still have queries you would like to discuss, please contact Mr Corry who will be happy to help: rcorry@brakenhale.co.uk

Year 9 Team



Parent Support Group
at Brakenhale

Thursday 14th March
10.00am to 11.30am

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:

Friday 3rd May
~ 10.00-11.30am ~

Wednesday 10th July
~ 1.30-3pm ~

Brakenhale School
Rectory Lane
Brookhill
Berkshire
RG12 7BA
01344 423041
tgosling@brakenhale.co.uk

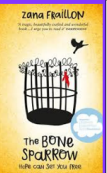
High Expectations and Challenge for All

Book of the Month Competition!

The Prize
A £10 book voucher

How do I win it?
Read this month's book of the month and write a review. Reviews should be emailed to Mrs Duddy before February 15th 2019. All entrants will receive house points. Winners will also be printed in *The Brakenhale Bugle!*

This Month's Book:
The Bone Sparrow, by Zana Fraillon




Subhi is a refugee. Born in an Australian permanent detention center after his mother and sister fled the violence of a distant homeland, Subhi has only ever known life behind the fences. But his world is far bigger than that—every night, the magical Night Sea from his mother's stories brings him gifts, the faraway whales sing to him, and the birds tell their stories. And as he grows, his imagination threatens to burst beyond the limits of his containment. The most vivid story of all, however, is the one that arrives one night in the form of Jimmie—a scruffy, impatient girl who appears on the other side of the wire fence and brings with her a notebook written by the mother she lost. Unable to read it herself, she relies on Subhi to unravel her family's love songs and tragedies. Subhi and Jimmie might both find comfort—and maybe even freedom—as their tales unfold. But not until each has been braver than ever before.

Brakenhale School Trips

High Expectations and Challenge

Bawdsey Manor
Suffolk, England



Striving to take students' learning outside the classroom through off-site activities and trips, to give students the exciting opportunity to bond and enjoy time together outside of the school.

Next exciting Key Stage 3 PGL adventure weekend for Years 7, 8 and 9:

BAWDSEY MANOR

Woodbridge, Suffolk



Friday 5th July to Sunday 7th July 2019

- Activity Centre with purpose-built accommodation blocks around outdoor courtyards
- En-suite rooms sleeping 4-6 people (sleeping bag required)
- £180.00 per student - covering insurance, travel, accommodation, meals, activities and entertainment

Some of the activities available are:

Absellins, Archery, Canoeing, Climbing, Crate Challenge, Fencing, Jacob's Ladder, Low Level Ropes Course, Raft Building, Sports and Team Games, Vertical Challenge Zip Wire, Water Sports





BRAKENHALE SCHOOL
High Expectations and Challenge

Weekend Astro Pitch Deal



Brakenhale School would like to offer local sports clubs reduced weekend rates on our sand filled astro on our sand filled astro pitch. We offer Half and Full pitch rentals

Please Contact:
apeacock@brakenhale.co.uk
to find out more!



Anti-Bullying
at brakenhale

Supported by the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

We are here to help!

Daily support during lunchtimes is available from your trained Diana Award Anti-Bullying Ambassadors:

• Ethan Nunn	• Danielle Rabulan
• Molly Penn	• Georgina Harrington
• Leanne Palmer	• Asha Murriss
• Callum Harding	• Jade Daniel
• Pixie Willett	• Chloe Hawkins
• Niketa Amar Dhapar	• Amy Cogdon
• Jodie Simpson	• Mia-Rose Hawthorne



ANTI-BULLYING

Available every day in the SSC at lunchtime

Daily support available from trained Anti-Bullying Ambassadors! Available in the SSC.


We are here to help!!!

EVEN IF YOU'RE WORRIED OF ANYTHING IT'S ALWAYS BETTER TO SAY THAN SORRY ☺

1 out of 5 people suffer from bullying, and every single one of them needs help.



Brakenhale Presents...



SCHOOLS WILL ROCK & YOU

The Musical

Performances in the main hall

Wednesday 27th February, 6pm

Thursday 28th February, 6pm

Tickets £5/adult and £4/child : available on Parent Pay



The Brakenhale Vocal Group

Thursday 3:05 - 4:05

LS1

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 @ 1.30PM

LUNCHTIMES

LS1



Do you want to experiment with new materials? Try out new techniques? Work on fun group projects?


ART CLUB IS FOR YOU

Art Club runs every THURSDAY 3:05pm-4:05pm

All Students are welcome!

Location: A02

Camera Club



Do you like taking photographs?

Do you want to be part of an elite photographic team?

Then you should join CAMERA CLUB!

When?

Monday lunchtimes 1.25 - 1.55pm

Where?

B17

Who?

Anyone is welcome from Year 7 to 13

STEM

We have an exciting opportunity from M3 for Year 7 and 8 girls interested in STEM careers. This is an INVITATION ONLY FREE event. Students will need to complete a slip (which will be arriving from M3 soon) and return to Mrs Lowe in T04 by Thursday 28th February to register for this event via Brakenhale. Students will need to be accompanied by a parent/carer to the event which will be taking place on Thursday 14th March between 4.45 and 8pm. There are only 20 spaces per school so let Mrs Lowe know if you are interested. Please see below for more details.

Come to an open evening at a science-based innovation company and see where STEM qualifications might take your career For Year 7/8 female students, accompanied by a parent/guardian. An invitation-only event 3M is a proud sponsor of British Science Week, 8-17 March 2019

3M Centre, Bracknell : Thursday 14 March 2019 4:45pm – 8:00pm




Choosing which subjects to study?

Science? Technology? Engineering? Maths?

Come to an open evening at a science-based innovation company and see where STEM qualifications might take your career

For Year 7/8 female students, accompanied by a parent/guardian. An invitation-only event.

3M in support of sponsor of British Science Week, 8-17 March 2019
3M Centre, Bracknell
Thursday 14 March 2019
4:45pm – 8:00pm



Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths

Opening up a whole world of possibilities

As a science-based innovator company, 3M is well positioned to understand the broad range of career opportunities that qualifications in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) subjects can lead to.

There are four activities:



You can come along for an hour – or stay for three! But be prepared to have your eyes opened to the world of 3M – and the range of careers available to people with STEM qualifications.

Mrs R Lowe, Head of Product Design, STEM

Sixth Form : Raising money for the British Heart Foundation


On Thursday 14th February, to mark Valentine’s Day, the Sixth Formers were wearing red and sold cakes to raise money for the British Heart Foundation. They raised a fabulous total of £220.50 so well done.

Sixth Form Team



School Dining Hall

Please see below the new menu for the first week after half term.



The Brakenhale School

WEEK COMMENCING : 25 Feb, 18 March

Week 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Hot Main Meal	British Farm Assured Beef Lasagne	British Farm Assured Chicken Korma, Mango Chutney	British Farm Assured Roast Gammon	Meatballs in a Rich Tomato Sauce	MSC (Marine Stewardship Council) Battered Fish
Hot Vegetarian Meal	Vegetarian Lasagne (V)	Vegetable Korma (V)	Roasted Vegetable Pasta Bake (V)	Cauliflower & Broccoli Cheese Bake (V)	Vegetarian Pizza (V)
Carbohydrate	Garlic Bread	Pilaf Rice	Roast Potatoes	Penne Pasta	Chips
Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Roasted Mixed Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Peas or Baked Beans
Pudding	Syrup Sponge & Vanilla Custard	Cold Gateaux of the day	Apple Crumble & Custard	Chocolate Muffins	Selection of Cold Desserts

We have available every day:

- Salad bar where you build your own salad
- Chef's Soup of the Day with Homemade bread (F)
- Fruit Jellies, Yoghurt Pots and Fruit Salads (F)

**(V) Suitable for Vegetarians
(F) Fresh Produce in our Kitchen**

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

We use locally sourced ingredients when available and in season

Please note that dishes may be changed at short notice due to availability and other extenuating circumstances.

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

Esteem

Congratulations to Esteem with their bake sale to promote Children's Mental Health Week and Thursday's Time to Talk Day. On Thursday - with some very yummy cakes (many homemade!) - they raised £90.60 during break and lunch. This will be winging its way to Place2Be, the nation's leading children's mental health charity, with patronage from The Duchess of Cambridge.

Our Esteem group, now in its second year, is a group - open to all students and staff - aimed at raising awareness of mental health issues.

Mr S Read-Linton, Access Arrangements Coordinator, English Teacher

We won't give up until everyone experiencing a mental health problem gets support and respect.

#TimeToTalk



Maths Puzzle of the Week

Very well done to everyone who had a go last week.

Answers to Mrs Harbour in M13 please before the end of next **Wednesday** please. The solutions will follow in next week's Parent News.

This week's puzzle 58: 15th February

Q58



Geoff the shepherd and Shep, his dog, are returning home from the fields. Geoff walks at a steady 4 mph.

When they are half-a-mile from home Geoff sends Shep on ahead to let his wife know he will be home soon.

Shep runs to the house, barks, immediately returning to his master, barks and continues going back and forth until Geoff arrives home.

If Shep runs at a constant 16 mph, how far does he run once he has been sent on ahead?

Last week's answer 56: 8th February

A56



total runs = batting average x number of innings

$$\text{Total for first 15 innings} = 16 \times 15 = 240$$

$$\text{Total after 25 innings} = 18 \times 25 = 450$$

$$\text{In the last 10 innings he scored} = 450 - 240$$

$$= 210$$

$$\text{Average for last 10 innings} = 210 \div 10$$

$$= \underline{\underline{21 \text{ runs}}}$$

Thank you to those who supported and promoted the NSPCC Number Day competition. There are actually 426 stairs and steps in and around the school. The winner of the Amazon voucher was Sofia, in Year 7, who was only 4 out!

We also raised £53.34 for the NSPCC so again, a huge thank you!!

Ms L Harbour, Maths Teacher

New Building

The site is very quickly looking more and more like a proper building, with the exciting addition of walls.



Television Opportunity

The television production company called Wall to Wall produce a variety of programmes, including Who Do You Think You Are? (BBC) and Long Lost Family (ITV). They also make BBC2's living history strand Back in Time; recent series of this include Back in Time for Tea and Back in Time for School.

For their new series they are looking for a family to immerse themselves in the world of rural village life. They will be filming the series in the region over the school summer holidays 2019 and are looking for a local family with children aged 8+. If you might be interested in applying to take part, or know a family who would, please see the flyer for details.



PE Update

This has been another busy week for the PE department with a huge number of fixtures being played. We are looking forward to a rest at half term before a busy second spring half term with yet a lot more fixtures!

Year 7 Football v Garth (Away)

Year 7 travelled away to Garth for their first match of the season last week. The boys have been working hard in training but were expecting a slower game than usual due to them playing on grass at Bull Lane.

The game started off well with Brakenhale scoring first around the 8 minute mark. But some fantastic goal keeping kept us out, with Garth also scoring soon after. Going into half time the score was 2-1 to Garth in the biting wind, with a healthy crowd of students, staff and parents looking on.

The second half came thick and fast with goals all the way through. The boys worked extremely hard, but with a lack of closing down space at the back, Garth slotted to make the final score 5-4 to the home team. Goals for Brakenhale came from Ronnie and James.

The boys now play Furze Platt in the cup and EPS in their 2nd league game. Player of the Match was James N. Onwards and upwards! #teambrokenhale

Year 7 Football -v Furze Platt (Away)

After only a goal difference to Garth last week, the Year 7 boys drew a tough game v Furze Platt away in the second round of the county cup this Tuesday gone. The boys were missing Harry D in the midfield but with a decent squad of 14 boys, things were still set to be promising. However Furze Platt had other ideas, scoring in the first 2 minutes of the game with some excellent football. There was certainly a lesson to be learnt with the home team blitzing our back line and finding the net regularly in the first half. The game was a test of the boys' mental and physical character as the home side dominated phases of play and finished with clarity and authority. Into the second half changes were made and big a mention must go to Archie F who came on and secured the back line with some fantastic football. He dominated in front of goal supporting Tommy (our keeper) and worked to ensure the deficit remained where it was. Into the middle of the second half Brakenhale scored a consolation away goal just before the home team hit double figures. Another mention also needs to go to the work horse Taylor C who ran his socks off in the midfield and worked hard to chase back and push up supporting play all game. The boys have already planned and worked out new strategies in their bid to find their first win of the season, perhaps away to EPS on Thursday of this week. Read more next week to see if they came back winners from the EP local derby!

Year 7 Netball v Kings

Year 7 played exceptionally well against Kings Academy on Tuesday after school. Outstanding performances by all members of the team created a strong lead from the first quarter - we were 6-1 up after 10 minutes with Maddie and Lizzie as GA and GS. This continued for the next 3 quarters allowing us to dominate then Gracy secured our victory in the final quarter allowing us to win 14-2. All of this would not have been possible without the team working well together and taking on board the advice. Well done to Maddie for being selected as player of the match by King's and for Gracy who captained the team.



Year 10 Football v Emmbrook (Away)

The Year 10 Football had a successful start to the League. They played Emmbrook away at Cantely Park and Emmbrook proved to be a physical side and brought the game to Brakenhale. The match was very evenly poised until the hosts went 1-0 up after 20 minutes. This seemed to spur on Brakenhale who went on to score 3 goals within 10 minutes. Billy scored two and Callum scored one. In the second half the game went back to being very tight until Billy scored a well deserved hatrick. Emmbrook managed to put one last goal past our keeper to bring the final score to 4-2. It was a great team effort with the boys pulling together in defence and attack. Well done to Billy who picked up the man of the match award. Special thanks to Joe in Year 9 for stepping up and having a fantastic game, as well as a thank you to our Captain, Callum, for organising the team before hand and making sure everyone was ready.

Year 11 Football v Sandhurst

Match report to follow in the next parent news.

Year 9 Football v Waingles

The boys started to game the right way and applied pressure on the Waingles' defence, 10 minutes in and we were 2-0 up. The goals came from Centre midfielder, Mason and an own goal from Waingles. By half time we were 4-0 up. Tom scored the other two goals, one which was a penalty and the other a very good volly.

In the second half Waingles found their groove and started playing their game, however they could not score any goals. The final score was 4-0 to Brakenhale.

Centre back, Bojan had a man of the match performance as he kept his head in the game and stopped any attack that could have lead into a goal. Well Done boys.

A massive thank you needs to go to Mr Briggs and Harry C for stepping in at the last minute for this game to happen.

Fixtures for the first week back after half term

Date	Year	Sport	Versus	Location	Start/Finish	Staff
25/2/19	7	Football	LVS	LVS	3.15/5.45	MPO
25/2/19	10	Football	Lucky House	Brakenhale	TBC	TBC
26/2/19	11	Football	Edgbarrow	Brakenhale	3.15/5.45	JBO
26/2/19	7	Football	Charters	Charters	3.15/5.45	MPO
27/2/19	9 and 10	Netball	Sandhurst	Brakenhale	3.15/4.45	LWI
27/2/19	9	Football	Ranelagh	Brakenhale	3.15/5.30	EJS
28/2/19	11	Football	Reading School	Reading School	3.15/6.00	JBO

New Extra Curricular Timetable

As we enter the new half term, we have a new extra-curricular timetable. It is very similar to the current one however we have added more revision classes! So if you are completing an exam in PE, make sure you know where you need to be. Please see further on in the extra-curricular clubs section for details.

PE Kit!

Just a reminder that tights should not be worn underneath PE kit (either leggings or a skirt). There are a number of reasons for this however the main reason is hygiene. As well as this, students' hair needs to be tied up, this is for safety reasons. So please can your son/daughter have hairbands for PE.

If they fail to bring a hairband or do wear tights they will be logged and they will receive a behaviour point. This is not new to the students, they are all aware of the rules as we go through them at the start of every half term and remind them throughout the term.

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

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



Fundraising

It was a pleasure to meet so many of you at the Year 9 options evening last week and I was able to talk for a couple of minutes about our fundraising. I was delighted that some of you agreed to run for Brakenhale in the Lexicon half-marathon on the 12th May, including a parent who was the first lady across the line last year! I will let you know when we have set up the section on our MyDonate page so that you can sponsor all those who will be running for to support our fundraising. If you are a parent or carer of any of our students and would also like to join the runners please e-mail me at fundraising@brakenhale.co.uk.

I also mentioned the Easthampstead Rotary Club community walk that we will be taking part in on Sunday 19th May. It would be wonderful if students, parents, friends, relatives would join Mrs Coley and I. Again, please e-mail me if you could join us.

NEW NOTICE!

A group of parents are doing a walk/run/cycle event for our charity on 14th April 2019. You can sponsor them if you follow this link <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/joannefox4>

Last week, Anne-Marie Lategan, parent of a Year 7 student and the energetic Chair of our PTA and the governors decided that we will synchronise our fundraising for the new building. The PTA has some fabulous ideas for raising money.

I met with Karen Budden, our finance and business manager, last week to reconcile the amount that we have raised so far and you will see that our total has increased considerably! We have passed the 10% point but that is still a long way from our target!

Please don't forget to visit our MyDonate page.

<https://mydonate.bt.com/events/iwanttobuysomefurniture/472468>

I look forward to hearing from you.

Karen Roche, Chair of the governing body



Bracknell Bees Discount Vouchers

Sunday 17th February

Wednesday 20th February

Reading FC Discounted Tickets

Discounted Reading FC Tickets plus fantastic prizes to be won!

- **Reading FC v Rotherham United on Saturday 23rd February 3pm Kick Off.**
- Reading FC v Leeds United on Tuesday 12th March 8pm Kick Off.
- Reading FC v Brentford on Saturday 13th April 3pm Kick Off.
- Reading FC v Birmingham City on Sunday 5th May 12:30pm Kick Off.

The Reading FC School and Grassroots Ticketing Scheme also allows our School to raise much needed funds, as for every ticket you purchase, a percentage of the ticket is donated back to the school from Reading Football Club.

If our School is successful, then we have the opportunity of winning some of the following prizes: Meet the first team players, Play on the Madejski Stadium pitch, Bonus towards our funding, Free Family Tickets, Signed items and much more!

How to Book:

Reading FC sell 4 home league fixtures at a time throughout the season, and anyone wishing to book should check on sale dates via www.readingfc.co.uk.

Once one of our chosen fixtures are on sale, phone the Ticket Office on **0118 968 1313** and quote **Brakenhale School**. Tickets must be booked by the chosen deadline for each fixture. This is 3pm on the Thursday before a weekend fixture, or 3pm on a Friday before a Tuesday night fixture. After this time, discounted tickets will not be available through the scheme.

Tickets are only available in the Eamonn Dolan Stand including the family Area. Each booking must have at least one child as part of the booking. Madejski Stadium ground regulations and ticketing Terms and Conditions also apply, please visit www.readingfc.co.uk

Ticket Price	Amount donated to YOUR team or group
Adults £15	£5
65 and over £10	£4
18-24 £8	£3
17 and under £5	£2
12 and under £2	50p

Age Band	Ticket Price	Amount Raised
Adult	£15	£5
65 and over	£10	£4
18-24	£8	£3
17 and under	£5	£2
12 and under	£2	50p

Extra Curricular Clubs

Well done to the many students who take part in a variety of after school clubs on a regular basis and who contribute to house points in doing so. It is lovely to see so many students taking part with such enthusiasm.

NON-SPORTING EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS - SPRING TERM 2018-19

DAY	TIME	CLUB	YEAR GROUP	LOCATION	TEACHER IN CHARGE
Monday	1.25 - 2.00	Camera Club	All Years	B17	Miss Wilhelmy
	1.25 - 2.00	BBE (Brakenhale Brains Explore) Club	KS3 (invite only)	M14	Mrs Masson
	1.25 - 2.00	PE Exam Club	Year 11	tbc	Mr Potter
	3.05 – 4.00	Homework Club	All Years	LRC	Mrs Daniels
	3.10 – 4.15	Tech Club (21/1/19 – 1/4/19)	Year 11	T05	Mr Esling
Tuesday	1.25 - 2.00	“Identity” LGBT+ Group	All Years	T03/4	Mrs Gibbons/ Mrs Lewis
	1.25 – 2.00	“We Will Rock You” Singing Rehearsal	Cast only	Drama Studio	Mrs Duffy/Mrs Raby/ Mrs Hope
	1.30 - 2.00	Brakenhale Bugle (Student Newsletter)	All Years	C14	Mrs Keljarrett
	3.05 – 4.00	Homework Club	All Years	LRC	Mrs Daniels
	3.05 – 4.00	Textiles Club	All Years	C06	Mrs Faluyi
	3.05 – 4.30	“We Will Rock You” Drama Rehearsal	Cast only	Drama Studio	Mrs Duffy/Mrs Raby/ Mrs Hope
Wednesday	1.25 – 2.00	“We Will Rock You” Singing Rehearsal	Cast only	Drama Studio	Mrs Duffy/Mrs Raby/ Mrs Hope
	3.05 – 4.00	Homework Club	All Years	LRC	Mrs Daniels
	3.15 - 4.00	French Club	Years 7/8/9	C03	Miss Appleton
	3.05 – 4.30	“We Will Rock You” Drama Rehearsal	Cast only	Drama Studio	Mrs Duffy/Mrs Raby/ Mrs Hope
Thursday	1.25 – 2.00	“We Will Rock You” Singing Rehearsal	Cast only	Drama Studio	Mrs Duffy/Mrs Raby/ Mrs Hope
	3.05 – 4.00	Homework Club	All Years	LRC	Mrs Daniels
	3.05 - 4.05	Dungeons and Dragons	All Years	C11	Mrs Cresswell
	3.05 - 4.05	Vocal Group	All Years	LS1	Mrs Hope
	3.10 – 4.00	Art Club	All Years	AO2	Mr Budden/Mrs Faluyi
	3.05 – 4.30	“We Will Rock You” Drama Rehearsal	Cast only	Drama Studio	Mrs Duffy/Mrs Raby/ Mrs Hope
Friday	1.25 - 2.00	BBE (Brakenhale Brains Explore) Club	KS3 (invite only)	M14	Mrs Masson
	1.25 – 2.00	Drama Group	Year 9	Drama Studio	Mrs Raby
	3.05 – 4.00	Homework Club	All Years	LRC	Mrs Daniels

Students should check with the Teacher in Charge to sign up to clubs

PE EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - SPRING TERM Part 2 2018-19


 PE EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
 Half Term 4 - 2018-2019

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BEFORE SCHOOL (0710 – 0800) Full kit needed to participate	Fitness ***Staff only*** Gym LRU	Fitness (Mixed) Y10-13 only Gym RBE	Fitness ***Staff only*** Gym LWI	Fitness (Mixed) Y10-13 Only Gym CMY	Fitness ***Staff only*** Gym JBO
LUNCH (1330-1355)	***Sports Hall Closed*** GCSE PE Study Sessions PE Office	***Sports Hall Closed***	***Sports Hall Closed*** Y12 A level PE Revision C21 MPO	***Sports Hall Closed***	***Sports Hall Closed*** Y10 GCSE PE Revision C21 MPO
AFTER SCHOOL (1505-1630) Full kit needed to participate ***4pm for Trampoline***	Fitness (Mixed) Y10-13 only Gym RBE	Netball (Girls) All years Courts LWI/LRU Football Year 7 and 8 Field/Astro MPO/CMY	Football Year 9 and 11 (Senior) Field/Astro EJA/JBO Badminton (Mixed) All years Sports Hall LRU	Football (Girls) All years Field/Astro CMY Football Year 10 Field/Astro RBE Trampoline (Mixed) All years Trampoline Centre JBO/MPO ***4pm Finish***	P6 PE Exam Course Study Sessions GCSE PE Revision (Year 11) BTEC L2 and L3 catch up (Years 10-13) Fitness (Mixed) Y10-13 only Gym RBE

Sessions may be postponed on a weekly basis due to staff meetings which take place in line with the school calendar – please check the school weekly bulletin to confirm on a weekly basis. All of these sessions are **open**, with all students in the listed year groups welcome. Some AM sessions are only for certain students (KS4/5) and only certain mornings – please draw this to their attention.

DANCE EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - SPRING TERM 2018-19

Extra-Curricular Dance Timetable

Starting from Monday 14th January



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Break time	Year 10 -13 rehearsals	Open for rehearsals all years	Open for rehearsals all years	Open for rehearsals all years	Year 10 -13 rehearsals
Lunch time	Year 10 -13 rehearsals	DARKMATTER	Open for rehearsals all years	We Will Rock You Dance Rehearsals	Year 10 -13 rehearsals
After School 3:05 MS	Year 9 Dance Club (MS) Kiera Open to all of Year 9 STARTS 21/01/19	Year 11 BTEC Dance Rehearsals (MS) Mrs Duffy	We Will Rock You Dance Rehearsals (MS) Mrs Duffy Cast only	DARK MATTER Dance Company (MS) Mrs Duffy Year 9 Boys	Lift Off Rehearsals (MS) Mrs Duffy Invited group only
After School 3:05 JNS	Year 7 & 8 Dance Club (JNS) Jess & Mrs Duffy Open to all of Year 7 & 8	Year 11 Choreography Rehearsal (JNS) Charley GCSE group	Year 11 Choreography Rehearsal (JNS) Ellie GCSE group	Year 11 Choreography Rehearsal (JNS) Emily and Caitlin GCSE groups	

Future Events and Notices



operating theatre live

LIVE INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH REAL SPECIMENS

THE UK'S AWARD WINNING LIVE SURGERY EVENT FOR STUDENTS AGED 14-19

SATURDAY 6TH JULY 2019
THE BRAKENHALE SCHOOL
BERKSHIRE - RG12 7BA

OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS AROUND THE SURROUNDING AREAS
WWW.OPERATINGTHEATRELIVE.CO.UK/PUBLICEVENTS



National Online Safety

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

#WakeUpWednesday

- Which apps/games are you using at the moment?
This will give you a good overview of the types of things your children are doing on their phones. Along with their interests, chances are that they will tell you exactly what they are doing. So it is a good idea to ask them to tell you what they are doing. It is also a good idea to ask them to show you what they are doing. It is also a good idea to ask them to show you what they are doing.
- Which websites do you enjoy using and why?
So in the top right, asking this question will allow you to find out what your child is doing online, and encourage positive conversations about their online activities. For teachers, this is also a good idea to find out what your child is doing online, and encourage positive conversations about their online activities.
- How does this game/app work? Can I play?
Shows a genuine interest in what they are doing, which they get a lot of from an app with them. It might highlight something that they don't necessarily think is a danger to them, if they are not sure how to share their activities with the question mark.
- Do you have any online friends?
Children can form positive relationships with people online, and this is becoming more common thanks to online multiplayer games, but they may not fully understand the difference between a friend and a stranger. Have you met anyone online that you don't know in real life? For example, have you met anyone online that you don't know in real life? For example, have you met anyone online that you don't know in real life?
- Do you know where to go for help?
Although you may be the adult that they trust the most, some children struggle to talk about what happens online to someone on their own. Encourage them to talk to you about what happens online to someone on their own. Encourage them to talk to you about what happens online to someone on their own.
- Do you know what your personal information is?
Your child may already know what their personal information is, but they may not know how to keep it safe. Encourage them to talk to you about what happens online to someone on their own. Encourage them to talk to you about what happens online to someone on their own.
- Do you know your limits?
Children may not understand the negative impacts of devices or game addiction, talk to them openly about healthy habits and set boundaries on how their screen time. Encourage them to talk to you about what happens online to someone on their own. Encourage them to talk to you about what happens online to someone on their own.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter: @nationalonlinesafety Facebook: /nationalonlinesafety Phone: 0800 368 8061



ROCKETS MINIBALLERS CAMP

AGE: 4-9 YEAR OLDS
DAY: MONDAY 18th FEBRUARY
TIME: 12.30-2.30PM
COST: £12

ROCKETS COMMUNITY CAMP

AGE: 10-16 YEAR OLDS
DAYS: TUESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY
TIME: 10-3PM
COST: £25 (£20 for Rockets Squad Members)

eden a better world of learning

READING ROCKETS

JOHN MADEJSKI ACADEMY
NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE,
READING, RG2 8DF
BOOK ONLINE:
WWW.READINGROCKETS.CO.UK
OR CALL: 0118 926 3040

EARLY BIRD OFFER
GET A 10% DISCOUNT WHEN YOU BOOK YOUR PLACE BEFORE 31ST JANUARY 2019!



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

Free trial lesson: 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
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- Helps confidence, respect and self discipline in children
- Dedicated classes for all ages
- Learn to defend yourself
- Highly qualified instructors

Telephone us: 01344 874031
www.blazemartialarts.com



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.



The **School Lottery** is a fun and effective way to raise money to improve our school. But we need your help to make the lottery the best it can be, so please support the lottery today - and who knows maybe you'll be the next winner!



your school lottery

Supporting BRAKENHALE

BUY A LOTTERY TICKET & SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL

New Year, New Resolution - Buy a lottery ticket to support our school!

- Cash Prizes to be WON every week!
- Match all 6 numbers & WIN £25,000!
- Tickets cost £1 each, per week & 40% of ticket sales goes to our school.
- Draws are every Saturday at 8pm & results posted online.
- Joining is easy, just visit our web page to support us now.

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

Search for:
Brakenhale

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older. Sign up before the 31st February 2019.
*Terms and conditions apply. See website.

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!



easyfundraising
feel good shopping

Current Vacancies

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

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

- Second in Data
- History Teacher
- Head of Humanities
- Maths Teacher

Future Diary Dates

* Please note that all events may be subject to change

Monday 4 th March	:	Student Voice at Houses of Parliament
Tuesday 5 th March	:	STOP Meeting
		The Late Tudors History Trip
Thursday 7 th March	:	Duke of Edinburgh Awards Evening
		GCSE Geography Fieldtrip

Term Dates

Term Dates 2018-19

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>



#challengeforall

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

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

High Expectations and Challenge