



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back after what I hope was a restful half term, which feels in many ways like it was weeks ago as we have been so busy! The students have once again settled in very quickly to being back at school and have had a great week. I have delivered assemblies to all students in Key Stage 3 and 4 this week about 'What makes a Good Education'. I have talked to them about the importance of gaining knowledge but more importantly about being curious learners, asking questions but also about being positive communicators. We also discussed how we are all different and sometimes we will struggle but to always confide in someone and when we get it wrong to apologise. Next week I will be talking to all students about their grade reports and giving out lots of reward letters which I am really looking forward to doing.

On Tuesday we held a Finance workshop for Year 11. We have had a lot of feedback from students about their desire to have more sessions in PSHE about finance and what they are going to need to know and understand when they leave school. The notion that money doesn't grow on trees is something that some of them still don't fully understand!

On Thursday our Head of Performing Arts, Mrs Duffy, was able to take our Year 13 dance students along to Chichester University to further their understanding of professional dance – another example of the great opportunities that students have at Brakenhale to look forward to aspirational ideas for their future.

This morning I was greeted at the gates by lots of cars which is unusual for me as there are not normally that many people on site at 7am! 48 of our Year 11 students were busily unloading their bags and quilts from cars in preparation for their coach journey to PGL at Liddington. Some of them looked like they had packed for a 6 week trip to America! The purpose of the trip is predominantly a 3 day study exercise but within this they will also undertake some team building activities. It was with great pride that I chatted to them all this morning, they were so excited and enthusiastic about the 3 days ahead. A huge thank you to Mr Beukes, Mr O Donoghue, Mr Dean, Mr Anderson, Miss Toofany and Mr Radcliffe for giving up their weekends to be with the students. Next week will be our Year 11 Options week and our students are looking forward to focussing on their individual options on a daily basis.

On Thursday we have our Sixth Form open evening, preparations for this are all in place and it is set to be a very informative and busy evening. If you are interested in joining us in Year 12 please come and see us and take the opportunity to meet our staff and students.

FAB feedback this week:

- Brakenhale is the talk of the town, that's where everyone wants their child to get a place - Year 3 Primary Teacher

DRAB feedback this week:

- Posters as homework: Too many teachers are giving out posters as homework when, if you are always having to do posters as homework (this is a valid scenario at the moment) it gets boring and doesn't help people to learn.

I will of course talk to staff about this and fully understand this view.

Staff member of the week:

- Miss Gooding: For helping people with anxiety, including me.
- Mrs Forde: For helping me whilst in isolation.
- Mr Rees: For pushing my class above and beyond our expectations.
- Miss Harbour: She is helpful and makes the lessons fun. Also she helps all of us all the time and makes sure we are all understanding and at the same point as everyone else.

Student of the week:

Courtney Little Year 12 - who works very hard with the SiLSiP (Say it Loud, Say it Proud) and Children in care with the council. She has now progressed to being editor of the SiLSiP magazine. This is a fantastic achievement, well done Courtney.

The motivational quote for next week is: 'As we all know, the very best ideas come from the quietest voice'.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Jane Coley, Headteacher

What's on next week

W/C Monday 5th November

Tuesday 6th November

Wednesday 7th November

Thursday 8th November

Year 11 Options Week 1

Sixth Form Safe Drive Stay Alive

Year 11 National Citizens Service (NCS) Assembly

Sixth Form Open Evening

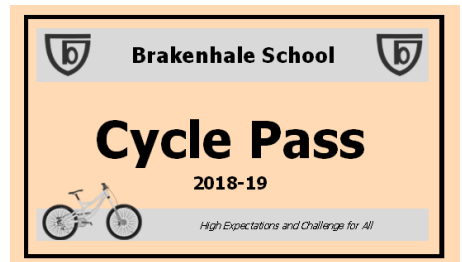
Cycling to School

Can we please remind parents that to cycle or scooter to school students need a permit and helmet.

At Brakenhale we welcome our students cycling to school. It is good for the environment and for their health. In addition, Bracknell has numerous safe cycle paths that students can use to avoid busy roads as much as possible. We have a secure area to keep bikes but also ask students bring a lock to offer further security.

Last year we implemented our 'Brakenhale Safe Cycle Scheme' where all students need a pass to be able to ride their bike to school and also to use the bike store. A pre requisite to gain and keep hold of the pass is the mandatory wearing of a bike safety helmet. In addition, any student seen riding their bike in a dangerous manner will have their pass revoked. Furthermore, all bikes ridden into school must be deemed road worthy and safe with working brakes. This also applies to scooters.

We had a very good start to this scheme last year, can parents please keep reinforcing the message. Remind students that the helmet must be worn securely and has to be put on before they leave the bike area at the end of the school day.

**Cycle safety**

Cycling needs to be encouraged – it's green, healthy and fun and it helps children to become independent.

However, in 2014, 85 cyclists aged 8-11 were killed or seriously injured on Britain's roads, so it's vital that 8-11 year olds learn how to stay safe on a bike.

Helping your child stay safe

- Ask your school or Local Authority about cycle training in your area. Your child shouldn't cycle on roads until they have been trained.
- Check your child's bike to see if it's roadworthy: look at brakes, tyres and lights/reflectors (when riding at dusk or at night you must have white front lights and red back lights and reflector)
- Make sure the bike is the right size for your child
- When out driving, teach your child about roundabouts, traffic lights and pedestrian crossings
- Find out where local cycle paths and lanes are
- Make sure your child wears a helmet which fits and is worn correctly, it should not be pushed too far back on the head
- Ensure your child wears some high-visibility clothing when cycling
- When out and about with your child look at cyclists and talk about how easy they are to see

Remember that if you cycle yourself you should set a good example!

The basics of cycling safety

These are all covered in detail in the Tales of the Road booklet which your child should have a copy of.

- Look behind before you turn, overtake or stop
- Use arm signals before you turn right or left
- Obey traffic lights and road signs
- Do not ride on the pavement unless there is a sign saying that you can
- On busy or narrow roads do not cycle next to another person
- When overtaking parked cars, watch out for car doors opening suddenly
- Do not listen to a personal stereo while cycling

These are just some of the rules children who ride on roads should know. Young cyclists need to learn what road signs mean, how to deal with roundabouts and understand when to give way. If you have time, read through the Tales of the Road booklet with your child.

Find out if **cycle training** is available at your child's school – this is the best way to learn the skills and knowledge needed to stay safe on the road. You can learn more about cycle training in your area at www.bikeability.org.uk - [new window](#) or contact your local Road Safety Officer through the Local Authority.



SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO.

What is NCS?
National Citizen Service (NCS) is a life-changing experience offering 15 to 17 year olds the chance to take part in adventurous activities, develop valuable skills and meet new people. Over 400,000 teenagers have already benefited from taking part in NCS.

PHASE 1: ADVENTURE
Personal Challenge
Living independently, young people complete outdoor activities.

PHASE 2: DISCOVERY
Team Challenge
Young people work with industry professionals to learn new skills.

PHASE 3: SOCIAL ACTION
Real Challenge
Young people design a social action project to make a difference in their community.

CELEBRATION
Their Future
Young people will be invited to a graduation ceremony.

87% of our graduates feel more confident in themselves

92% feel they have developed skills for their future, after finishing NCS

106 students from Bracknell Forest signed up for an experience of a lifetime in summer 2018

Assembly - 07-11-2018
Lunchtime stall - 14-11-2018
The Brakenhale School

For more information or to sign up, visit NCSYES.CO.UK or call 020 3510 5050

NCS @NCS NCSYES NCSYES

November Learn a

Friday
16th November
2018

Word of the Day

Challenge for all years:
Use this word during the day, verbally or in your writing in a full sentence and you will be gifted a token. Hand all the tokens that you collect in to Main Reception and the student with the most tokens will receive a prize.

KS3 only:
Make a note of all new words learned on this day, hand in to Mrs. Lewis and the student with the most words will also receive a prize.
Good Luck and I hope you learn lots of new words today :)

Tolerance

the ability or willingness to tolerate the existence of opinions or behaviour that one dislikes or disagrees with

Word Day

Top 6 spoken languages at Brakenhale:

- Polish - tolerancyjny
- Akan - tolerant
- Filipino - mapagparaya
- Italian - tollerante
- Romanian - tolerant
- Portuguese - tolerante

High Expectations and Challenge

Brakenhale School Sixth Form

Information Evening for Courses 2019-21

Thursday 8th November
6.30pm to 8pm

You are warmly invited to our Sixth Form Information Evening between 6.30pm and 8pm on Thursday 8th November 2018. The evening will commence with a talk from senior staff and you will then have the opportunity to look round our Sixth Form Centre, discover our wide range of courses and speak to teachers and current students.

The continued resurgence of Brakenhale Sixth Form has been confirmed by the most recent A-Level and BTEC results. In every single measure there has been an increase in attainment and progress.

2018: 60% A* to B (including equivalents)

Brakenhale School
Rectory Lane, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 7BA
Telephone: 01344 423041
Email: sixthform@brakenhale.co.uk
Web: www.brakenhale.co.uk

GREENSHAW LEARNING TRUST
Partners in excellence

PIXL
Partners in excellence



The Brakenhale Vocal Group

Thursday 3:05 - 4:05
151

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
151

Pumpkin Carving with Identity

Brakenhale's Identity group had a great time getting slimy and carving festive spooky pumpkins.

If you would like to learn more about the schools LGBT+ Social group please feel free to drop in to see us Tuesday lunch times in T04 or speak to Mrs Gibbons or Mrs Lewis. More exciting events coming soon!

Mrs Gibbons, Head of History



Pumpkin Comic Strip Competition

All you budding artists and photographers need to get creative! The Brakenhale Bugle is launching it's first Comic Strip Competition - the paper needs a comic strip for the first edition due to be published at the end of this half-term.



The theme of the comic strip should be related to either Christmas, winter or events that are relevant to this time of year. The comic strip can be in colour or black and white and should be limited to 4 panels (there are loads of comic strip templates available free online). The comic strip can either be hand-drawn, digitally created or even use the Fumetti style and be photographic.

The deadline is the 22nd November and submissions can either be emailed or handed in to Miss Wilhelmy (twilhelmy@brakenhale.co.uk) or Mrs Keljarrett (ckeljarrett@brakenhale.co.uk). If you have any questions or need some help, please come and see either of us.

Mrs C Keljarrett and Miss T Wilhelmy

STOP: for Parents of Teens

STOP: A Supportive Programme for Parents of Teens

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

The programme will be run on the following dates and be located in school. Please contact the school if you are interested.

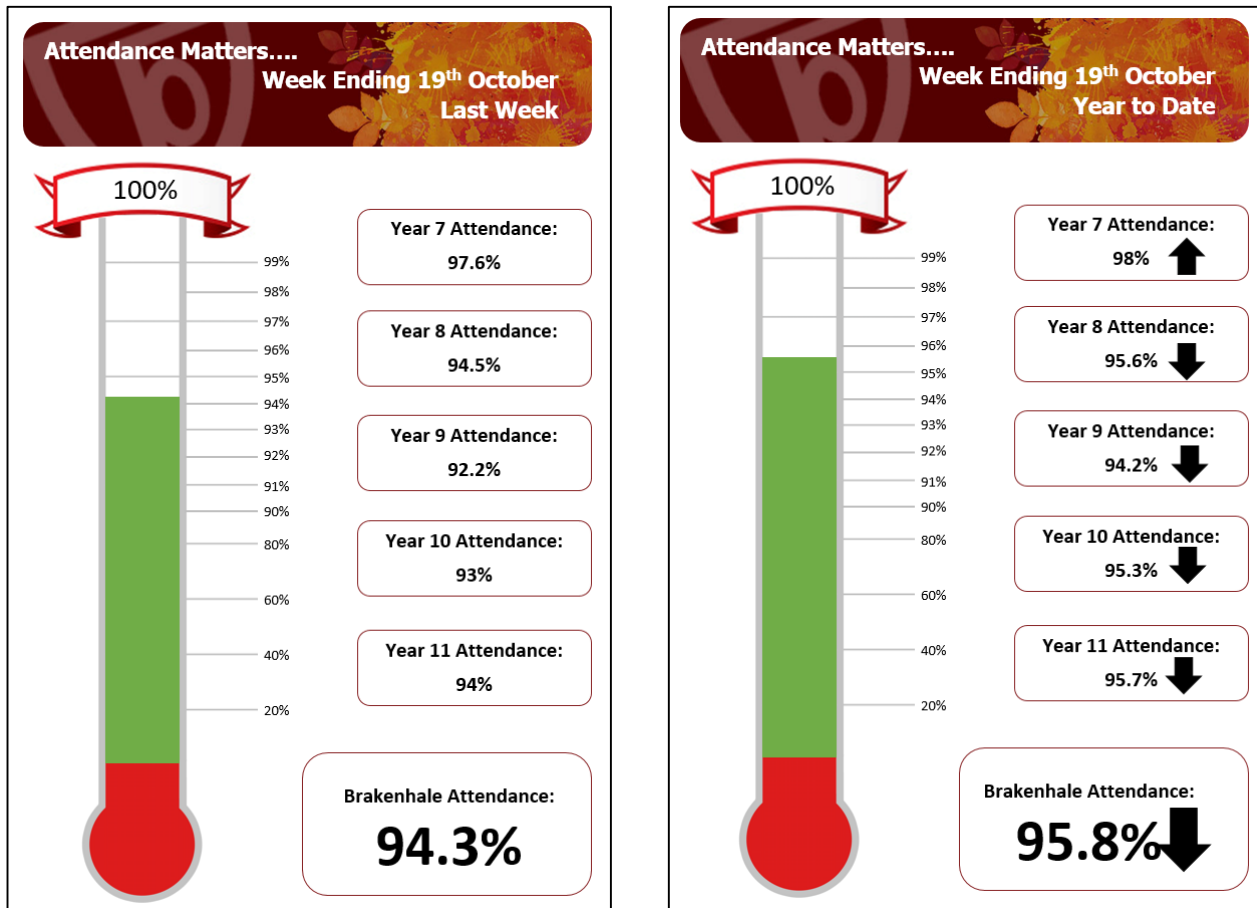
- Thursday 8th November 13.00 to 15.00
- Thursday 15th November 13.00 to 15.00
- Thursday 22nd November 13.00 to 15.00
- Thursday 29th November 13.00 to 15.00
- Thursday 6th December 13.00 to 15.00
- Thursday 13th December 13.00 to 15.00

Miss Manisier, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
jmanisier@brakenhale.co.uk

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.



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.

Miss Skill, Attendance Officer

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

PE Department Weekly Bulletin

RESULTS		WEEK OF 29 th October				
Year	Sport	Versus	For	Against	Result	PoTM
8	Netball	Edgbarrow	2		L	Maddie R
8	Rugby	Tournament	3		2nd	Alex Bourne
9	Netball	Edgbarrow	3		L	Ella M
9	Rugby	Tournament	2		2nd	Liam Keats
REPORTS		WEEK OF 29 th October				
Year 8 Netball	Well done to the Year 8 team who confidently played against a strong opposition from Edgbarrow. Supported by Maddie J-M from Year 7, the team went on to play a Year 8 side who were just too strong at shooting. Congratulations to Maddie R who captained the team and scored the 2 goals during the game. An extra congratulations to Maddie R for also receiving player of the match. Thank you to the Year 8 team members who also supported the Year 9 team in their matches as they were 2 players down.					
Year 8 Rugby	Tuesday 30 th October was a chance for the Year 8 boys to show progression in their away rugby fixture at Sandhurst. Their first fixture against Sandhurst resulted in a 20-5 loss. However, since then all members of the team have showed encouraging signs both in lesson time and extra-curricular rugby club. The boys suffered a second defeat by 20 points to 15, but real development has been made from the whole team, with some special individual performances from Alex, scoring two tries and Harry who captained the side superbly. Unfortunately the home side managed to score the winner within the final moments of the game, but credit must go to the Brakenhale boys who played some excellent rugby.					
Year 9 Netball	This week saw Year 9's first netball game of the season, and it was against strong opposition. In the first quarter the team worked well, however we could not keep hold of the ball. During the second quarter the students took on all the advice from the team talk and managed to stop Edgbarrow from scoring. During the third and fourth quarters the team kept their spirits high and continued to encourage each other. A massive thank you needs to go to the Year 8s who helped the Year 9 team; without them they would not have had a team. Player of the Match was awarded to Ella M (Year 8).					
Year 9 Rugby	Year 9 made the trip to play in their first rugby tournament over at Sandhurst on Tuesday. With this being their first run out, it was going to be interesting. The boys played some superb rugby and came second overall. Games were played back to back as the light closed in quickly. The boys got to work being physical and showing excellent commitment to secure and steal the ball both in closed and open play, led by captain Joe Morton. Excellent performances came from Liam Keats and Lewis Clyde who both showed exactly what it takes to be a rugby player. The boys impressed with their skill level and physicality, but in their final game lost to a strong Sandhurst team. A superb display from the boys who all played ferociously, leaving nothing on the sideline and all on the pitch. Player of the match went to Liam Keats.					
Year 10 Young Ambassador Programme	This week 8 students in Year 10 were interviewed for selection on the Young Ambassador (YA) programme which is taking place within the Bracknell Schools Sport Partnership. Interviews took place Tuesday and Wednesday, conducted by Miss Willimott, Mr Potter and Mr Jeffries. All candidates presented themselves superbly, making it a tough decision as there are only 4 spaces on the YA programme. The 4 selected students will be told individually, but a huge thanks must go to all 8 who applied as you sold yourselves brilliantly and came across very well indeed.					
FIXTURES		WEEK OF 5 th November				
Date	Year	Sport	Versus	Location	Start/Finish	Staff
6/11/19	7/8	Football (Girls)	Tournament	Garth	3.30/5.30	MPO
6/11/19	KS3/4	Badminton	Edgbarrow	Edgbarrow	3.30/5.00	LRU
BEST TUTOR		WEEK OF 29 th October				
YEAR	7	8	9	10	11	12/13
TUTOR	N	H	K	R	H	P16N
SPORTS ☆		WEEK OF 29 th October				
NAME	Scarlett Hutton					
REASON	For making the squad and representing Team GB at the Tumbling World Championships in Russia! A fantastic achievement, very well done and GOOD LUCK!					

Fundraising

We need your help to raise £47,872 by September 2019!!!!

Thank you so much to those who have donated on our MyDonate page.

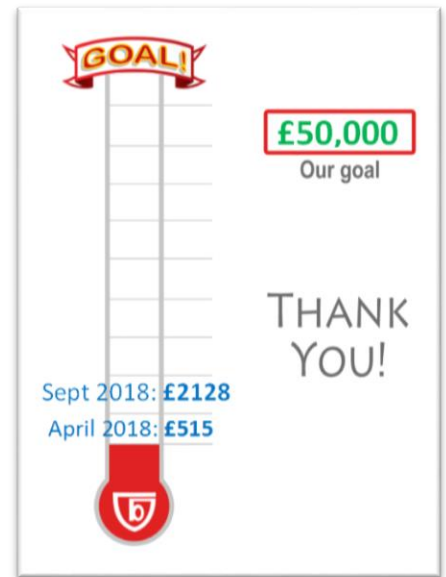
Dear parents and carers

You may have noticed that we have lots of blue hoarding around the school. **Please will you speak to your employers and ask if they would like to advertise on the hoarding.** We offer advertising space at a fixed price until the end of the project. Although most hoarding is inside the school grounds, there are up to 1000 people seeing it every day – parents, visitors, contractors, delivery companies, teachers from other schools, etc. If you find anyone that is interested, please ask them to contact me at the fundraising e-mail address:

Fundraising@brakenhale.co.uk

Please don't forget to visit our fundraising page and either donate some money (however small), or buy some furniture.

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



BRAKENHALE IS SELLING RAFFLE TICKETS TO RAISE MONEY FOR OUR NEW BUILDING

A new initiative for our fundraising efforts is joining the Easthampsted Rotary Club Draw.

The reason for us getting involved is simple. We will receive **every penny that is raised back to spend on the equipment and fittings that is desperately needed for our new building.** We hope to raise about £7,000.

We will be sending two books of raffle tickets for the Draw to all parents/carers of students in Years 7, 8 and 9 and we are hoping you will be willing to sell them for us.

Please note:

- You are under no obligation to sell all or any of the tickets. If you do not want to participate, simply return the tickets in the envelope provided as soon as possible.
- If you are willing to work with us on this, please sell as many tickets as you can and return the money and ticket stubs (with a name and contact phone number written on them) with your child as soon as possible, but by **Monday 3rd December** at the latest. Please also return any unsold tickets.
- If you are able to sell more tickets than you have been allocated, please e-mail fundraising@brakenhale.co.uk and we will make sure we get them to you straight away.

If you would prefer that your child does not bring raffle tickets home, please simply e-mail me via fundraising@brakenhale.co.uk. Just state your son/daughter's name and tutor group.

Thank you very much for your support and I hope that you will be among the lucky winners.

With thanks,

Karen Roche, Chair of the governing body

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!



Join our weekly online lottery, tickets cost £1 a week.
40% of all tickets go to our school, with another 30% funding prizes.
A GUARANTEED cash prize to one of our supporters every week.
Chance to WIN £25,000 jackpot every week!

To start supporting, visit
www.yourschoolottery.co.uk/play

And Search For:
Brakenhale

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!



Current Vacancies

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

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

- Assistant Caretaker
- 2 Midday Supervisors
- Maths Teacher

Future Diary Dates

* Please note that all events may be subject to change

Monday 12th November
Wednesday 14th November

Year 11 PPE Exams start
Year 11 NCS Fair

Term Dates

Term Dates 2018-19

AUTUMN TERM 2018

Term dates for students:

(Inset Days: Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th September)
Wednesday 5th September to Thursday 20th December
Autumn Half Term – Monday 22nd to Friday 26th October
(Inset Day: Friday 21st December)

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

SPRING TERM 2019

Term dates for students:

Monday 7th January to Friday 5th April
Spring Half Term – Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February
Spring Holiday for students – Monday 8th April to Monday 22nd April
(Good Friday 19th April, Easter Monday 22nd April)

SUMMER TERM 2019

Term dates for students:

Tuesday 23rd April to Friday 19th July
(Inset Days: Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July)
Summer Half Term – Monday 27th to Friday 31st May
Last day of Summer Term for students – Friday 19th July

Bracknell Forest term dates can be found on their website:

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



#challengeforall

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

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

High Expectations and Challenge