



Parent News: Friday 20th March 2020

PLEASE ensure that we have your correct contact details!

The easiest and quickest way to check your contact information is via the School Gateway App.

If you're having trouble logging in, it may be because we don't have your current email and mobile phone number on our records. Please call the school office and we will update the details on our system.

We hope that you will find School Gateway a great way to keep up to date with what's going on at school.

Dear Parents/Carers

This week has been the hardest of my career and it has left me heartbroken to see our amazing kids besides themselves with grief that their school careers were literally over and their exams cancelled; it was hard to take. Staff were just as gutted for them - they have literally moved heaven and earth to guide and prepare them and not to give them the chance to shine has been tough. Other students have been bewildered, anxious, a little frightened and now their place of safety is being removed indefinitely.

But on the other side I have been humbled and amazed at the overwhelming sense of community and love that has permeated our school and I could not have been prouder of everyone. Highlights have been bagging up nearly 200 packs of food for families and over 100 boxes of essentials that we managed to order for staff who haven't been able to get to the shops. The fact that we've been able to stay open all week for all year groups with high quality teaching and learning in all classrooms continuing all day every day has been remarkable. The way in which staff and students have reached out to each other to reassure and support could not have made me prouder.

The messages of support and touching gifts such as the chocolates from Mr and Mrs Johnstone, have been constant and they have also kept us all going. The weeks ahead will be tough but we know we have to do this to keep our precious community safe from harm and nothing is more important than that.

Student of the week:

Danielle Rabulan Post 16 - Danielle took it upon herself to help pack the FSM bags with staff on Thursday, then after school she took it upon herself to go round handing out KFC milkshakes she had bought herself to as many staff members as she could. Such an incredible Head Girl. We always say look for the helpers in these situations and all day that was her.

Serkan Genc Year 11 - For the most amazing notes following the visit to see the Poet Laureate, Serkan demonstrated just how amazing our students are.

Fab:

- Updates on Coronavirus - Thank you so much for the continued updates regarding the Coronavirus. We are very grateful. We have disabled and vulnerable people in our family so it's important to be kept informed.
- Massive thanks to #teambrokenhale for their hard work, patience and reassurance during these difficult weeks. When I think of the amount of additional work each teacher has undertaken to prepare classwork in the event of the school closing, it hits home how dedicated they are. Thank you all.
- Like you I look forward to seeing more on how the Government plans to grade GCSEs this year. I understand it is far from ideal but these are unprecedented times and once schools closed it seems there was little option than to cancel the examinations. My daughter has been very calm about this, and in large part, this is due to yourself and your staff explaining as much as you know to her. One thing I do know, is that whatever the decision on grades this year is, the work that you have all put in for her will not have been in vain. It will I am sure be reflected in the 'results' she achieves later this summer. As I briefly mentioned the

other day, I would like to thank you and your staff for their dedication in what must have been incredibly times. Fingers crossed this virus disappears soon, and she can resume her education in 6th form!

- Just wanted to say that while the world is going through these unsettling times, Brakenhale has done more than I would have ever expected to ensure I have been informed with the information I require, you have put the welfare of the students (and staff) at the top of your priority list and I think Brakenhale is simply amazing. If there is anything me or my boys can do to support Brakenhale through these times, please do not hesitate to contact me.
- You're doing an amazing job, so just keep doing what you're doing.
- I just want to say a huge thank you for the frequent updates, attitude and proactive approach shown in such a challenging and uncertain time. My daughter seems very well comforted by the messaging she's received, and understands what is now needed from her to progress her education in new and different circumstances. I have full confidence in the entire education and support team at Brakenhale in not only getting through the next few weeks, but also recovering and getting back to normality over time to minimise the impact to all students.
- Thank you for your email Ms Coley, this has come to us all a huge emotional shock. You and your team are amazing and you do fantastic work within the school. My daughter was devastated last night. And she still is. She has worked so hard during key stage 4. Hopefully she will get her grades and continue to study at home. We all know that this is out of your control. She also said that you gave her hope with the assembly this morning. All we can say is keep safe and keep in touch. Thanks for all you do and keeping us informed.
- I would like to say a massive thank you to you and all the staff at Brakenhale during this dark time. You have all been totally amazing.
- I can't imagine how stressful these past few weeks have been, crazy times. Just wanted to give a MASSIVE thank you to all the Brakenhale team!
- Felt I needed to drop you a message, I know you probably have had loads but hey, here's another 😊. THANK YOU so much for everything you are doing, not only do you have the worry of the school and our children but also of your own family and friends. We are truly grateful for the great communication and endless work you are doing to make this run as smoothly as possible. We realise you can't do this alone so please share with your awesome team that are working away to help. Here's to some sunshine and lovely days when all this is over.
- Just a note to say thank you for everything done and doing for students while still have own families and current situation.
- Thanks for all you are doing.
- I just wanted to say Thank you for being so proactive in this time of absolute crisis and uncertainty. My daughter joined in Year 7 and you have been so on the ball with everything. I am aware the past few weeks haven't been easy. So thank you, thank you for going above and beyond. Stay safe.
- I would like to thank you for the continued communication that we have received. This must be a very concerning time and imagine that your hands are tied really with any decisions regarding closures. I have been battling with sending my son in as we have my elderly Dad living with us and I am petrified of him getting ill. But despite this I just wanted to say thank you for all you are doing.
- Just want to say a big thank you, to you and your staff for keeping the school up and running in these crazy times. I personally think you have kept us well informed and updated on latest guidelines etc. I just wanted to give you some positive feedback on your efforts. Thanks.
- You are all doing an awesome job. Keep up the good work but remember to look after yourselves too. Thank you for everything.
- Thanks for the messages and the continued communication. You are all doing a fantastic job. You should all be very proud of yourselves.
- Dear Ms Coley and team, I am sending you this email to let you that you are a very loved and popular headteacher for the big changes you have made at Brakenhale, today I was at Heatherwood Hospital in Ascot with my daughter and I was so pleased to hear people speak nicely about the good changes in Brakenhale and appreciate all your efforts and fight that you are doing for Brakenhale. I was happy and

proud to hear people speaking positively about Brakenhale and appreciate you for that. Thank you so much for never giving up and for making Brakenhale the best school in and around Bracknell. Thank you so much to you all.

- Thank you for all your efforts to keep our children educated and parents and carers informed. They are much appreciated.
- I just wanted to say, Thank you for all the information you are sending out. And another big Thank you to you and your staff for all the hard work you are doing at the moment.
- I along with the community and the country are truly grateful to you and your wonderful team throughout the school. It does not go unnoticed the impact this is having on the education profession and it breaks my heart to think of the hard work, hours, dedication, support you all have given to our students. The bond between teaching staff and the students is so special at Brakenhale. My son came home yesterday and told us about a teacher who broke down in tears and this really hit home. Whatever happens, with the exams and the gradings, I just want to say a huge thank you for giving my son the best educational foundation he could possibly have. Perhaps once this horrible virus has had its but kicked there will be an opportunity for everyone to gather and celebrate our children's success and their futures. You are all incredibly fantastic people. Again thank you....

Staff member of the week:

Miss Perryman and the sick room teachers - Miss Perryman was so lovely on Thursday checking up on me when I was really unwell and other members of the Sixth Form! She is an outstanding part of Sixth Form! Thank you so much! The Sick room team constantly phoned different practices to get me an appointment for 40 minutes straight. So thankful for their help.

Mrs Bradley - Always very nice and kind. She helps me with my English and my lessons with her are enjoyable.

Miss Manisier and Miss Gill - For doing their best to support me to work things out :)

Mrs Duffy - For being a great tutor and an amazing dance teacher.

Quote of the week:

"It is only in our darkest hours that we may discover the true strength of the brilliant light within ourselves that can never, ever, be dimmed."

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all my very, very best across the next few weeks. Please take care of yourselves and your loved ones and know that myself and my staff will always be here at the end of an email or a phone ready to help you in any way that we possibly can in these very difficult times.

My very best wishes to you all.

Jane Coley, Headteacher

Bracknell Lions Easter Raffle

Congratulations to James in Year 8 who has won the Bracknell Lions Easter Egg hamper from their Easter Raffle.

Ms Coley officiated and picked the winning ticket out of the 'hat'. James was delighted with his lucky ticket.

All the proceeds raised go to charity.

In the past year fund raising by the Lions has helped many good causes including a new defibrillator for the Lexicon centre, toys for the Bracknell Sensory toy library, the Pilgrims Trust, the Lions Flood Disaster fund and the Australian bush fire disaster.

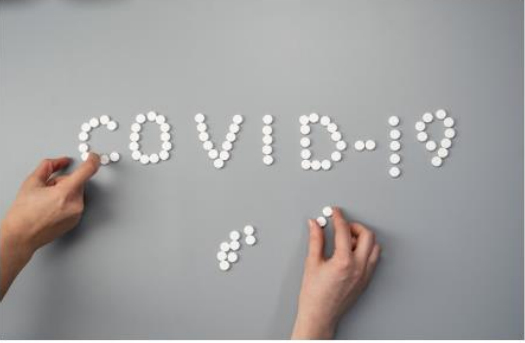


Supporting Young People with Worries about Covid-19

The Anxiety and Depression in Young People Research Clinic at the University of Reading has sent us some information that they have put together with colleagues from Oxford University. They hope that it may be of use. You can see a few pages below but the full booklet can be found on the school website. It is full of advice for parents, carers and people that work with children and young people.

[Please see the complete booklet on our website.](#)

Supporting children and young people with worries about COVID-19









Advice for parents, carers and people that work with children and young people

This is a time of uncertainty and a lot of children and young people will be feeling anxious and worried about what is going on. This is a normal response to the situation and below we offer some advice about what adults can do to help and support children and young people.

There is a lot of information becoming available - this is great but may also be confusing, so we have pulled together some advice and some of our favourite links in to one place. We hope this will be helpful.

Given that the situation is changing rapidly at the moment we will make updates from time to time which you will be able to find here: <https://emergingminds.org.uk/resources/>


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Look after yourself

It is understandable if you are feeling anxious and worried yourself at the moment and you may have some very difficult challenges to negotiate. Do look out for things that help you to cope. This will make it much easier for you to be able to respond in the way that you want to when talking to children and young people.


There is some useful information aimed at adults here:

<https://www.rethink.org/news-and-stories/blogs/2020/03/managing-your-mental-health-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/>

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/>

Keeping healthy habits

Where it is possible to do so, try to maintain normal routines as much as possible - for example, in relation to eating, sleeping, studying and playing or downtime. Routines help children and young people to feel safe. Getting outside in nature can also be beneficial. There is evidence that contact with nature boosts mood so, as long as medical advice permits, try to spend time outside with children and young people. If they are not able or do not want to leave the house, encourage them to get some exercise at home - there are lots of free apps or videos available on YouTube.



Watch out for getting caught in vicious cycles

There are some behaviours that it might be easy to get in to at this time that can make anxiety worse in the long run, such as:

- Avoiding things (e.g., a parent sleeping in the bed with their child instead of them sleeping on their own)
- Withdrawing from other people
- Constantly googling for information
- Spending a lot of time talking about worries
- Being on the lookout for danger
- Checking (e.g., looking at news updates a lot)
- Being in your head a lot thinking about things rather than fully doing things
- Washing hands at a level that goes well beyond the medical advice

Be on the lookout for these and other behaviours, and encourage children and young people to notice what helps (not just in the immediate short-term) and what ends up making them feel more anxious. Later on, we'll give you some ideas about how you might help

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them to deal with these behaviours in order to break any vicious cycles that they might have inadvertently ended up in.



Responding to children and young people

Children and young people will also be looking to the adults around them for clues on how they should be responding and whether they should be worried so do try to keep your responses in check during conversations with children and young people. This is not to say that you need to hide your anxiety, to the contrary, it is important to help children recognise that a certain amount of anxiety and stress is normal and to see how to deal with it (e.g. "When I am worried about this I like to call my friend, shall we call your friend to talk to them?", or "When I'm worried I like to watch a funny TV programme to take my mind off it, what TV programme would you like to watch?"). It is ok for them to know that adults worry too but they will feel more scared and find it harder to share their worries if they see adults feeling overwhelmed.

a. Recognise that it is understandable to feel worried or anxious

Talking about worries

It is good to talk about worries and listen to children and young people's concerns. Try to make time and space for children and young people to talk to you. They won't always let you know that they want to talk so look out for signs, such as them staying closer to you than usual.

When to talk

It is great if you can talk to children and young people at the time that they raise worries, as clearly they are feeling able to talk at that time. But we know this is not always possible and it is important to talk at a time when both you and they are not stressed, busy or tired. It can also be helpful to try to avoid discussing worries immediately before bed as things often seem scarier and more worrying at bedtime. If children raise worries or concerns at these times let them know that you have heard their worry and that you definitely want to talk to them about it and agree another time to have the conversation (and stick to this plan). Then perhaps come up with some other things that they can switch to thinking about instead of engaging in worrying.

How to talk

Key characteristics of situations that create worry and anxiety are a heightened sense of uncertainty, potential threat, and responsibility, and a reduced sense of control so it is easy to see why our current circumstances are fuelling anxiety. So, in conversations with children it is important to help them to:

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b. Develop an accurate and realistic understanding of the situation

c. Recognise simple, practical things that they can do, but also to be clear about the limits of their responsibility

Here are some steps that may be helpful:

① **Be curious and acknowledge their fears and worries**

Start with 'open questions'. These are questions that can't be answered with a simple 'yes' or 'no' (e.g. "What makes you feel that way?"; "What have you heard about the virus?"; "What are your worries about this?"). Older children may have picked up information online or through friends, so do explore what sorts of things they have been hearing. This will all help you to understand any fears and worries that they have.

Acknowledge how their thoughts must be making them feel. Try not to minimise or dismiss worries (e.g. "It will be fine!", "Don't be silly"), as this can lead to young people feeling that their concerns are not being taken seriously which may make them reluctant to talk about rather than feel able to come back and share thoughts or ask questions in the future (however silly they may seem). It is also hard to control what thoughts pop into our heads, so rather than saying "Don't think about it", encourage them to notice the thought but try not to engage in it (e.g., "There's that annoying worry thought again, what can you think about instead?")

② **Help them to feel understood and that their worries are normal**

Acknowledge that it is an anxiety-provoking time for everyone and that it is normal to feel worried. For example, if a child is worried about their grandparents you might say "I can see that you are worried about your Grandma and Grandpa, I am a bit worried about them too" and then follow with points 3, 4 & 5.

Recognise that things will be different for a while and that this might mean they feel disappointed as things they are looking forward to or enjoy doing are cancelled. This disappointment is understandable and ok.



③ **Gently correct any misunderstandings that they may have**

Bracknell Food Bank

If you are able to please can you remember to donate to the Bracknell Foodbank. This can either be done in your local supermarket or directly to the Foodbank at the Kerith Centre.

Bracknell Foodbank have a shortage of the following items currently:

- Long life fruit juice
- Long life milk
- Tinned peas
- Tinned carrots
- Tinned rice pudding
- Sponge pudding
- Custard
- Toilet rolls

They do not however need any pasta!

Thank you.

Information from the Examining Board



For the attention of the Head of Centre, Exams Officer and all teaching staff

Dear colleague

As I'm sure you'll know by now, the government has [announced](#) that schools across the UK will close until further notice, and this summer's exams won't go ahead.

I want you to know that, over the coming months, we'll be working tirelessly with schools, regulators and government to make sure young people who were due to take AQA exams this summer still achieve the qualifications they need to progress to the next stage of their lives – and that all the hard work students and teachers have already put in is properly rewarded.

I'm sure you'll have a lot of questions about how this will work, so I promise we'll keep you updated as soon as we know more details. We have a page on our [website](#) where we'll be sharing information and advice as it becomes available.

This – like the coronavirus itself – is an unprecedented situation for all of us. But our commitment to helping young people realise their potential hasn't changed, and never will.

Kind regards

Mark Bedlow
Chief Executive

[Read our Privacy notice.](#)

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STEM

PAID INTERNSHIPS | SUMMER 2020



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121 Mentoring | Launch Event | Weekly Pay | Learning Walks | Lesson Observations | Expert-led Curriculum Guidance | Lesson Preparation | Hands-on Lesson Delivery | STEM Project | Main & Contrasting Educational Placements | Transition Guidance | Support Network | Alumni Support | Planning Tools | Workload Reduction Strategies | Guest Entrance to the Festival of Education | ITT Application Support | Interview Coaching

MAKE YOUR APPLICATION BY FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 2020

Visit our [website](#), download and return the STEM Internship 2020 Application form located under the CPD tab. Or contact us directly via the details below

*£1,102 for the four-week internship will be paid directly to successful interns, subject to meeting attendance requirements

CONTACT:
FOREST LEARNING ALLIANCE
Email: cpowell@uplandsprimary.org
Tel: 01252 873069
Website: www.forestlearningalliance.org.uk



Wates Building Update



I wanted to provide you with an update with the current progress here at Brakenhale School. The new building was successfully handed over to the School at the end of 2019 and since January 2020 the students and staff have been settling into their new building and my understanding is they are thrilled with their new facility to which we are very proud of our efforts.

The new building was known internally as Phase 2 which is now complete. Our last phase of works (Phase 3) has commenced and will consist of the demolition of the existing School to provide a new staff car park, sports pitches and soft landscaped areas. Prior to any demolition the existing building has been subjected to detailed surveys which have included identifying the full extent of asbestos containing material. Naturally for a building of this age asbestos is known and present within the building and in the coming weeks a specialist licensed contractor will be appointed to begin the task of removing this material. I would like to emphasise that this will be undertaken with the building very much in-situ, under controlled conditions and will be subject to professional independent inspection to ensure the area is clear before any further work is commenced.

I completely understand that the task of demolishing the building will be of concern to you. The demolition will likely commence in May 2020 and will continue for approximately 12-14 weeks. Concerns regarding noise and airborne dust are understandable and I would like the opportunity to explain this task in more detail. The attached aerial shot of the site identifies 12 zones. The building will be demolished in sequence so in essence will be demolished working west to east (right to left). Works will only take place in line with permitted planning conditions which are currently Monday to Friday 8am – 7pm and Saturdays 8am – 1pm. I am sympathetic to the impact this may have on residents near the site particularly with the warmer months approaching and currently I have no intention of working beyond 6pm of an evening and Saturdays will be by exception and not the norm.

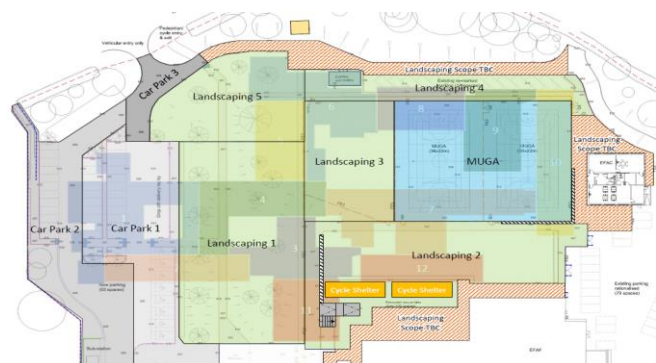
With advancement in demolition technologies i.e. silencers fitted to all machinery and superior dust suppression controls our aim is to ensure this task is undertaken with the minimal impact to the local community.

Finally, with the ever-increasing concern regarding the Coronavirus/Covid-19 we currently remain open as a site and will continue to operate whilst implementing the advice given to us all from Government.

I would like to place on record our thanks for your cooperation throughout the construction phase and should you wish to discuss any of the works further with me please do not hesitate to get in contact via the school.

Kind Regards

Paul Quinnell, Project Lead for Wates



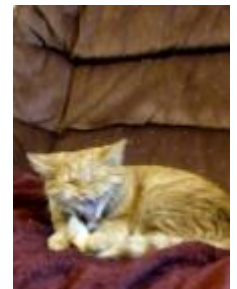
Camera Club Celebration

Unfortunately Camera Club was not able to run this week and with the imminent school closure, we will not be physically meeting for the foreseeable future. However, I thought this an ideal time to celebrate some of the photographs we have had submitted in the 2 years we have been meeting as a club, so here you are: a celebration of the photographic talent of our students.

Reflections: Amber W, Oliver M and Rachel S

Summer: Amy H, Bethia P, Hope G, Owen G

Holidays: Caitlin I, Oliver M



Now Camera Club may not be meeting every week but there is absolutely no reason why we cannot continue to take photographs and share them. This week's challenge is 'every cloud has a silver lining': think about the positive aspects of everything that is happening. Could you use the time at home to learn how to bake a cake, or paint a picture, or photograph random objects in your house?

You can email your photographs to me at twilhelmy@brakenhale.co.uk and I will ensure that we share them with our friends and family online. #teambrokenhale

Miss T Wilhelmy, Teacher in Charge of Art & Photography

Performing Arts

Sister Act

In light of the recent government announcement we have had to make the difficult decision to postpone our musical Sister Act performances to a later date in the year. Once we have alternative dates in place we will send out further information and open ticket sales.

We would like to thank all the students involved for their hard work and dedication so far, we look forward to inviting you to watch the show at a future date.

Spaces open at break and lunch for rehearsals					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Break time	Dance - Movement Studio (all years) Music - M01 (all years)	Dance - Movement Studio (Y9-Y13)	Dance - Movement Studio (all years)	Dance - Movement Studio (Y9-Y13) Music - M01 (all years)	Music - M01 (all years)
Lunch time	Dance - Movement Studio (all years) Drama - L01 (Sister Act key cast only) Music - M01 (all years)	Dance - Movement Studio (Y9-Y13) Drama - L01 (all years)	Dance - Movement Studio (all years) Drama - L01 (Sister Act key cast only)	Dance - Sister Act rehearsal for Boys Dance Group Movement Studio Drama - L01 (all years) Music - M01 (all years)	Dance - Movement Studio (Y9-Y13)
After School Clubs and Rehearsals					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3:05 - 4:05	STREET C^o. (JNS) Tiegan Street Dance Class - open to all year groups	Drama Club (Drama Studio) Miss Lawry Explore and perform Drama - up to Year 7		DANCE CLUB (JNS) Emily Creating a new dance piece - open to Year 7	Dance Revision (MS) Year 11 - Mrs Duffy
3:05 - 4:30	DARK MATTER (MS) Mrs Duffy & Lauren Year 10 Boys Dance Company	Free fall Dance Company (MS) Mrs Duffy Year 10 & 12 Dance	SISTER ACT (Main Hall) Full Cast Rehearsal	SISTER ACT (Main Hall) Full Cast Rehearsal	

PERFORMING ARTS ENRICHMENT



Mrs Duffy, Head of Performing Art

Coronavirus Update

Latest information

Updates on Coronavirus: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Travel advice for those travelling and living overseas: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

Public Health England blog: <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/>

We have shared with students the following video of hand washing to explain the importance of washing hands during the day and using the hand sanitizers around school:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/>

EAL Department (English as an Additional Language)

Catering for a variety of learners, the EAL department offers support to students with varying levels of proficiency in the English Language, aiding in accessibility and promoting achievement and independence.

The purpose of the EAL Department is to offer support to students of different cultural and linguistic backgrounds as they work towards proficiency in English, while following the mainstream curriculum.

The main aim of the EAL department is to enable EAL students to access the national curriculum in all subjects by:

- Developing the students' skills in English
- Helping students to become independent learners
- Assisting students in gaining knowledge and skills which will enrich their personal and professional lives
- Helping them to integrate into the new community
- Building their confidence in the mainstream classroom

All EAL students are supported in exams with bilingual dictionaries and those eligible are granted extra time for use.

Support sessions are now open for all students that are offered Heritage Languages GCSE available with exam boards. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the EAL Team at eal@brakenhale.co.uk

Greek translation

Τμήμα EAL (Αγγλικών ως πρόσθετη γλώσσα)

Εξυπηρετώντας ένα ευρύ φάσμα μαθητών, το τμήμα EAL παρέχει υποστήριξη σε μαθητές διαφόρων επιπέδων ευχέρειας στην Αγγλική γλώσσα, βοηθώντας στην προσέγγισή της και προάγοντας την επίτευξη και την αυτόνομη μελέτη.

Σκοπός του τμήματος EAL είναι η παροχή υποστήριξης σε μαθητές διαφόρων πολιτιστικών και γλωσσολογικών υποβάθρων και παράλληλα η αύξηση της ικανότητας και της ευχέρειας στην Αγγλική γλώσσα, ακολουθώντας την κύρια διδακτέα ύλη.

Ο κύριος στόχος του τμήματος EAL είναι να επιτρέψει σε μαθητές που δεν έχουν τα Αγγλικά ως μητρική τους γλώσσα, να έχουν πρόσβαση σε όλα τα μαθήματα της εθνικής διδακτέας ύλης, μέσω των εξής τρόπων:

- Αναπτύσσοντας την ικανότητά τους στην Αγγλική γλώσσα
- Βοηθώντας τους στην ανεξάρτητη μάθηση
- Βοηθώντας τους στην απόκτηση γνώσεων και ικανοτήτων που θα εμπλουτίσει την προσωπική και επαγγελματική τους ζωή
- Βοηθώντας τους να ενσωματωθούν στη νέα κοινότητα
- Χτίζοντας και ενισχύοντας την αυτοπεποίθησή τους στην τάξη

Όλοι οι μαθητές EAL υποστηρίζονται στις εξετάσεις τους με δίγλωσσα λεξικά και σε όσους πληρούν ορισμένες προϋποθέσεις, χορηγείται και επιπρόσθετος χρόνος.

Υπάρχουν ανοιχτά υποστηρικτικά μαθήματα διαθέσιμα σε όλους τους μαθητές, εφόσον οι εξεταστικές επιτροπές προσφέρουν εξετάσεις στη μητρική τους γλώσσα.

Αν έχετε οποιαδήποτε απορία, μη διστάσετε να επικοινωνήσετε με την ομάδα EAL στο eal@brakenhale.co.uk

Miss I Cmok, EAL Coordinator

PE Update

Well this week has been a strange one, as we have postponed all of our fixtures, so there is not much to report from PE, expect that all clubs are still running as planned.

There were a couple of fixtures that missed the deadline for Parent News last week, so here are the write ups.

Sport Relief Netball Staff v Sixth Formers

On Friday we saw the second Staff v Sixth Form netball match of the academic year. So far in the last couple of matches the staff have won, so this one was an opportunity for revenge for the students as they wanted to win this game. For the majority of the Sixth Formers it will be the last time they play as they are Year 13 students!

The Sixth Formers were ready to go and waiting for the staff to turn up. The staff started the match with only 5 players. At the end of the first quarter it was 3-3. The staff had another two teammates turn up so it meant we were even. There was some fantastic defence by Mr Maye (when he wasn't cheating) but the combination of Toby and Tom was too much and they secured a two-goal lead. The staff had an encouraging team talk and we went back out into the third quarter fighting. However the Sixth Form defence of Miriam and Laura kept us from scoring and it was 10-12. Mr Duffy scored a couple of great goals which he was surprised at, because at the beginning of the game he didn't know what to do or what the rules were! In the final quarter there were some lovely interceptions by Danielle and Asha which kept the Sixth Formers ahead. The final score was 16-13 to the Sixth Formers. A massive well done to Asha, Toby and Tom for organising the Sixth Form team. A big thank you goes to the following for staying and playing in the staff team: Mr Maye, Mr Duffy, Miss Bunkell, Miss Marshall, Miss Lewis, and Miss Robson.



Sport Relief Cake Sale

A big thank you to all those who provided donations, and all those who purchased the cakes at break time. Additionally a massive shout-out to Jodie and Hannah for their help with the cake sale.

From the cake sale and the netball match we managed to raise £136 for Sport Relief. So well done to everyone involved.

Year 9 Football v Desborough

Year 9 finished what can only be described as a season of nearlies! Again the scoreline flattered the opposition and without the rock like Will H-J in the heart of the defence, we struggled to contain the strong Desborough forward line. Looking back these boys need to remember that it is not what your teammates do for you that counts in team sport, but what you can do for your teammates. A team is only as strong as its weakest player, and it is up to the better players to use their ability to compensate for others weaknesses, we can't all be Leo Messi!!!!!!

We should pay tribute to the "find" of the season - our new goalkeeper Kye O - who was outstanding between the sticks and made a string of fine saves. Alfie C, Pharrell S and Jamie M tried manfully to cope with the pacy Desborough strikers, but with little cover from a midfield intent on only going forward, they were left cruelly exposed at times. In the second half Finn D and Adam M provided a cutting edge to the attack, but sadly the ball did not bounce our way.

Desbrough ran out winners 7-0, and in truth "Lady Luck" again eluded us, but as Gary Player (8 time major winner in golf) once said, "the harder I work, the luckier I get!"

There will be no fixtures next week

Miss Willimott, Lead Coordinator of Girls PE and Head of Farley House

PE Champions of the Week

Here are the Champions from last week:

PE CHAMPIONS OF THE WEEK

Week of: 9th March 2020

Staff	Student	Tutor
Mr Potter	Chloe Rose	11E
Miss Willimott	Rhian Murphy	7R
Mr Maye	Denny Nichols	7H
Mr Boucher	Oliver Hurst	10R
Miss Rushby	Kane Cowley	11E
Mr Bissett	William Hillier Jones	9A

#teambrakenhale
#brakenhalepe



Hegarty Maths

Here are the Hegarty heroes for this week.

Position	Name	Hours
1	Georgia Wilkins	3.1
2	Shaurya Joshi	2.9
3	Nadine Apea	2.8
4	Bailey Edmond	2
5	Sarah Elkyeam	2
6	James Carr	1.8
7	Amelia Mendoza	1.7
8	Annie White	1.6
9	Thomas Farr	1.6
10	Maisie Davidson	1.6

Position	Name	Hours
1	Oliver Marsh	3.6
2	Poppy-May Cooper	3.5
3	Leland Spohr	2.9
4	Hayden Lewis	2.7
5	Kieran McQuillan-Woodhouse	2.5
6	Sofia Valenzuela Russo	2.4
7	Rose Trotter	2.3
8	Callum Cobb	2.3
9	Raul Dan	2.3
10	Charlotte Newell	2.3

Position	Name	Hours
1	Valeria Romanescu	2.6
2	Dillan Mullally	2.6
3	Victoria Thompson	2.5
4	Azhmat Giga	2.5
5	Courtney Fryer	2.2
6	Lashon Ranklin	2.1
7	Arwa Bilal	2
8	Salina Limbu	2
9	Alexander Morris	1.8
10	Tegan Woodley	1.8

Position	Name	Hours
1	Agnescca Owusu	6.5
2	Stefano Bitti	4.8
3	Thomas Minihane	3.9
4	Leah Pennell	3.7
5	Keirskaye Morla	3.6
6	Lauren Slade	3.5
7	Megan Woods	3.1
8	Jackson McManus	3
9	Millie Griffin	2.6
10		

Position	Name	Hours
1	Katie-May Bailey	3
2	Daniel Hamed-Adekale	2.4
3	Adrian Nowinski	2.3
4	Aaron Reed	2.2
5	Rachel Sullivan	1.8
6	Rachel Little	1.8
7	Mia Cross	1.7
8	Paulo Barbosa	1.2
9	Jimmi Smith	0.8

Mrs L Harbour, Maths Teacher

Curriculum Support Updates

Tools for Learning

Student Tools for Learning are now sold by Mrs McCrorie from the new Head of Year office in our new building on the first floor.

Tools for Learning will be available to purchase before school from 8.20am to 8.35am and then during tutor time until 8.55am. They will also be available during break time, 11am to 11.25am. Emergency pencil cases to borrow for the day will also be available from the Head of Year office during morning tutor time.

You will still be able to purchase tools for learning online via parentpay and collect them from main reception.

Students should also remember to bring their PE kit and any other items needed for the day, including timetables.

Tools for Learning made up pack

Large see-through Pencil Case	£0.80
Three Black or Blue Pens (15p each)	£0.45
HB Pencil	£0.10
Rubber	£0.10
Pencil Sharpener	£0.15
30cm Ruler	£0.15
Protractor	£0.20
Highlighter Pen	£0.15
Colouring Pencils	£0.80
Glue Stick	£0.35
Full pencil case	£3.25
Scientific Calculator	£8.35
KS3 Art Book	£1.00

PE Kit and other items

Students should remember to bring their PE kit and any other items needed for the day, including timetables and subject specific items. Getting into the habit of preparing uniform and school bag the night before is a really good idea to keep students organised.



Lost Property

Please can we kindly remind all parents and students to name all items, including uniform, PE kits, water bottles, pencil cases, other tools for learning - EVERYTHING.

We have a member of staff dedicated to reuniting lost property with owners and she endeavours to return items daily. However, she is unable to return items to students without a name and items will be disposed of at regular intervals. Email: lostproperty@brakenhale.co.uk

All items of unnamed lost property will be given to charity at the end of term unless they have been collected.

Black Brakenhale Coats

If you have a child that has outgrown any plain black coats suitable for school, please would you kindly consider donating them to us to put in as spare uniform stock. We would really appreciate any spare coats or other items of uniform so please think of us as your children outgrow their uniform.

Chewing Gum

We would like to remind you that chewing gum is not permitted on the school site, sanctions will be issued if this is not adhered to.

Recycling

We are continuing our pen recycling initiative and there is collection point in the Head of Year office. Thank you to all the students that used this collection point last term.

Stamp Collection

Mrs McCrorie still continues to collect used stamps for guide dogs. If you could kindly save all used stamps we have a box provided in the Head of Year office where students can place them. Many thanks.

Mobile Phone Policy

Could we please ask parents to remind students that mobile phones must not be used on the school site at all, this goes for before and after the school bell.

Anyone seen using mobile devices contrary to school guidance will be logged.

School Uniform – Scarves

Following the introduction of Brakenhale scarves in house colours last year, we would like to advise that no other scarves will be permitted in school. School scarves can be purchased online at a cost of £11.00.

Cycle & Scooter Safety



It is really important that we all stay safe to and from school and would like to remind students that they MUST wear a cycle helmet to school. If they are seen without wearing one this does carry a sanction. Student safety is really important to us. Please note that electric scooters are not allowed in school.

Could we also please remind students to only leave their cycles **IN** the main bike shed and not locked up outside. Any cycles found outside the bike shed will have additional locks put on them for safety and the student's right to cycle to school will be in jeopardy.

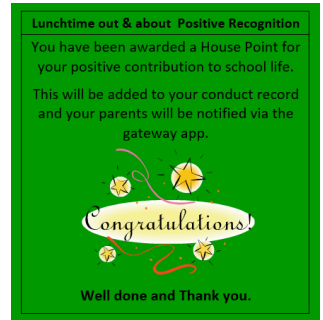
Parent Pay

The support team would also appreciate the help of parents to keep their parent pay accounts in credit for the purchase of food from the canteen.

Reward Tickets

Here at Brakenhale we have an army of support staff and Midday Supervisors who patrol our school playgrounds, football courts and canteen to ensure appropriate behaviour is promoted and for the safety of every student.

Our Midday Supervisors are keen to maintain consistent standards of student behaviour at lunch times they are now rewarding good behaviour with a positive lunchtime green recognition ticket and house points. We feel this works effectively to engage with the students and that it's important they benefit from positive points and the reward system during lunch breaks.



Many have already been issued out so well done to so many for being polite and for being seen doing the right thing.

Mrs McCrorie, Midday Supervisor, Curriculum Support Assistant, Lost Property Link

Attendance Update

Attendance Matters...

Week Ending 13th March 2020

Period 04/09/19 - 13/03/20

Year Group	%
Year 7	96.5 %
Year 8	94.3 %
Year 9	93.8 %
Year 10	94.2 %
Year 11	92.3 %

Brakenhale Attendance Year to Date 94.3 %

Attendance Matters...

Week Ending 13th March 2020

Period 02/03/20 to 13/03/20


Year Group	%
Year 7	95.5 %
Year 8	94.7 %
Year 9	94.1 %
Year 10	94.5 %
Year 11	87.8 %

Brakenhale's Overall Attendance for Period: 09/03/20 - 13/03/20 93.6 %

Brakenhale's Overall Attendance Year to Date 04/09/19 - 13/03/20 94.3 %

Mrs Silvey, Attendance Officer


Events and Notices



ESTEEM
Mental Health

Esteem is an informal meeting place for anyone interested in promoting mental health in and around school.
All are welcome! Bring your lunch!

**EVERY THURSDAY @ 1.30PM
IN THE SEN AREA**



Mr Read-Linton



CHILLOUT SESSION
"Creating Opportunity for Youth Development"
Youth Club
Fridays 5.00-6.30pm
Young people aged 12-16 years
(living with moderate learning difficulties)

Become a 'Chillout' Session Member
£1.00 per week! First Session FREE!



Address: The Wayz Youth Centre, Caltridus Way, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 9ET
Tel No: 01344 483596 / 07928 816186
Email: admin@thewayzyouth.co.uk

BE PART OF THE ROYALS FAMILY



BRAKENHALE

BRAKENHALE has teamed up with Reading FC to bring you the magic of football and matchdays with special ticket prices starting from as low as £2 per person. Buy your ticket and enjoy a day at Madejski Stadium.

What's more, by purchasing a ticket through the scheme, your School will receive 25% cashback, and be in with a chance to win:

- A player visit for your School
- An invitation to an exclusive Meet the Players Evening
- Signed merchandise and lots more

OUR FIXTURES

LUTON TOWN Sat 9 th Nov, 5pm Reading deadline: Thu 1 st Nov, 5pm Coupon code: BH5-1920-1
DERBY COUNTY Sat 21 st Dec, 5pm Reading deadline: Thu 19 th Dec, 5pm Coupon code: BH5-1920-2
NOTTINGHAM FOREST Sat 11 th Jan, 5pm Reading deadline: Thu 9 th Jan, 5pm Coupon code: BH5-1920-3
BRENTFORD Sat 21 st Mar, 5pm Reading deadline: Thu 19 th Mar, 5pm Coupon code: BH5-1920-4
SWANSEA CITY Sat 2 nd May, 12.30pm Reading deadline: Thu 30 th Apr, 5pm Coupon code: BH5-1920-5

TICKET PRICES per person

Adults	£15
65 and over	£10
18-24	£8
17 and Under	£5
12 and Under	£2

TO BUY

- Visit bookings.readingfc.co.uk and enter the coupon code at checkout to redeem the offer and secure your ticket.
- Contact our Ticket Office on 0118 968 1333

Please ensure you bag before the listed deadline

Brakenhale School

CLOTHES RECYCLING!

Don't send your unwanted items to landfill...
The more bags you bring the more money we raise for the school.

The following 'good quality' items are accepted for RE-USE:

- ✓ Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- ✓ Paired shoes (tied together/elastic band around)
- ✓ Handbags, Hats, Bags and Belts
- ✓ Scarves and Ties
- ✓ Jewellery
- ✓ Lingerie and Socks
- ✓ Soft toys
- ✓ Household linen, Curtains and Towels
- ✓ Bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

Put your items in a black bin bag.

Please note that the following are not accepted:

- ✓ Duvets and Blankets
- ✓ Pillows and cushions
- ✓ Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)
- ✓ Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing
- ✓ School uniforms with and without logo
- ✓ Corporate clothing and workwear
- ✓ Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

Thank you for supporting the school!



BULLYING

Please let us know if you would like to meet with someone

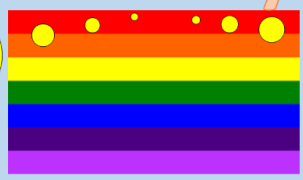


BRAKENHALE SITE IS A NO SMOKING ZONE

Identity

Everyone is welcome ☺

A space to be free and be you.



What do we do?

- Discuss recent issues – locally and globally
- Task Master
- Quizzes
- Speed friending
- Film nights

We meet every Friday lunch in F10
If it is wet break, we will meet in SO1 (Miss Bunkell's room)

With Mrs. Lewis and Miss Bunkell

Bracknell Forest's Family Services Directory & SEND Local Offer

“Providing free, impartial information & advice about Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) and all other family matters...”

- SEND information all in one place - How to access services & support including Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs)
- Education, childcare & early years funding
- Leisure & holiday activities
- Advice & support services
- Brokerage service for those struggling to find childcare

Family Information Service fis@bracknell-forest.gov.uk
01344 353133
www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/localdirectory



Where can I get help with an EHCP?

Where is my nearest baby clinic?

I'm struggling with my child's behaviour – where can I get help?

How do I apply for free 30 hour childcare funding?

Fundraising



Please click here to see our fundraising video on YouTube: [Brakenhale Unlocking Potential Fundraising Video](#)

Please click here to see our BBC News film: [Brakenhale School on BBC News](#)

New fundraising page: [Virginmoneygiving](#)

Brakenhale's all-things fundraising/new build webpage: <https://brakenhale.co.uk/about/new-build/>

Brakenhale School Lottery

Congratulations to the prize draw winners.

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to our school lottery. We are continually looking to increase new members each month, so if you have not signed up yet now is your chance to do this.

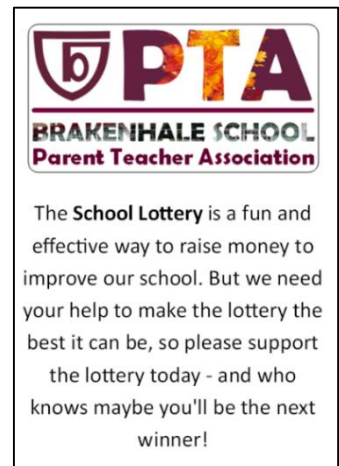
There is a weekly draw in which you could win a prize (approximately £20 depending on participants, which increases the more members we have). Plus you have a weekly chance to win up to £25,000.

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.



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](#).





Maths & Economics Teacher
 Second in Science
 Science Graduate
 IT Technician
 SEN Administrator
 Invigilators
 Teaching Assistant

Please visit our website for more details:
<https://brakenhale.co.uk/about/vacancies/>

Feedback Initiative

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

Electronic submission:



[Fab](#)



[Drab](#)



[Staff Member of the Week](#)

Term Dates

Term Dates 2019-20

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)

Term Dates 2020-21**AUTUMN TERM 2020**

Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September 2020 **Inset Days**

Thursday 3rd September – Friday 18th December 2020

Autumn Half Term - Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2020

Christmas Holiday: Monday 21st December 2020 to Friday 1st January 2021

(Friday 1st January Bank Holiday)

SPRING TERM 2021

Monday 4th January – Thursday 1st April 2021

Spring Half Term - Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2021

Spring Holiday: Friday 2nd April to Friday 16th April 2021

(Good Friday 2nd April, Easter Monday 5th April)

SUMMER TERM 2021

Monday 19th April – Friday 16th July 2021

Summer Half Term - Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2021

Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st July 2021 **Inset Days**

Summer Holiday: Thursday 22nd July 2021

INSET Days Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September 2020
Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st July 2021

Please check the school website regularly for current information.

Bracknell Forest term dates can be found on their website:

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



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

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

High Expectations and Challenge