



# BRENTFORD BULLETIN

"TOP 100 NON-SELECTIVE STATE-FUNDED SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTRY" NICK GIBB, MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCHOOLS (FEBRUARY 2016)

KEEPING YOU IN THE LOOP

## HEAD TEACHER'S UPDATE

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to this half term's edition of the Brentford bulletin: keeping you in the loop with what is happening in the school over the next few weeks.

As we move into the half term, there are a number of events and festivities which we will be celebrating as a community. The Christmas fayre and concert are always fantastic events, so please come along to celebrate with us.

Over the next few weeks you will be receiving your daughter's interim report. The purpose of this short report is to inform you how well your daughter is doing and what areas she needs to work on. Please read the interim report with her and take the time to talk through what the next steps might be. If you have any concerns or questions about your daughters' report, please contact her form tutor or Head of year to discuss this. Please also remember that your daughters progress may go up and down, progress never just moves forward in a straight line!

We have been delighted with the student interest and 'take up' of our clubs and extra curricular activities this term. The girls have really embraced all of the opportunities that are available to them outside of the classroom. If your daughter is not involved, please encourage her to. Students can book onto clubs online on CHQ with their passwords. If your daughter has lost or forgotten this, she will need to see Mr McInnes for a replacement.

Thank you, as always, for your support of the school.

Have a good half term,

Ms M Leenders

## END OF TERM ARRANGMENTS

The first term of the year has come and gone and we are now at the end of the autumn term. The autumn term has been very busy one, with many events and activities for the students to get themselves involved with, the new Year 7 cohort finding their feet at the school, Year 9 pupils beginning their journey towards their GCSEs and the 6th form announcing this years Head Boy and Girl.

The last day of autumn term is **Wednesday 20th December**. Students will be dismissed at 12.30pm and should go straight home, or to any planned activity you have authorised. Students will not be permitted on the school site following their dismissal. Students must be in full school uniform on this day. The end of term will run as normal with our end of term celebration assemblies planned for all year groups. However, normal lessons will run during period 1 and 2, so please can you ensure your daughter has all of the necessary equipment for her lessons, including PE kit.

I would like to remind your daughter of some key behaviour expectations. Our place in the local community is important and we expect all of our students to behave appropriately when travelling to and from school. We are very proud of our school uniform, and expect our students to arrive at school in full school uniform, and leave in the same way each day.

I would also like to remind you that mobiles phones and headphones are not to be seen on the school site. Phones and headphones should be put into schools bags on arrival at the school gate and they should not be removed until your daughter leaves the school building at the end of the school day.

The spring term begins on **Thursday 4th January** at the normal start time of 8:50am.

I wish you all a happy and safe end of term break.

## BEHAVIOUR UPDATE

As always at Brentford School, we remain focused on ensuring that each and every pupil reaches their full potential and has a positive school experience. We have reached the half way point in the Autumn term and it is pleasing to see the students maintaining the positive start they have made to this academic year.

At the end of each half term at Brentford School, we reflect on the behaviour of our pupils and the data this provides us in order to create an action plan to further support your daughters learning. From the report, it was noted that a small number of pupils were missing homework deadlines and arriving to lessons without the full equipment required. Can I therefore please ask that you help the school in supporting your daughter by ensuring that she has all the equipment she may need for each school day. It is vitally important that, as Parents / Carers, you are checking your daughters journal on a weekly basis to ensure all homework is being recorded and completed and that you sign the journal to say these checks have been made. If you have any questions, concerns or queries regarding homework, please contact your daughters tutor in the first instance. Homework is a vital part of your daughters education and we urge you to support your daughter and the school in this matter. I look forward to your continued support in upholding the expectations and strong reputation of Brentford School.

## OCCASIONAL DAY

School will be closed to both staff and students on **Friday 1st December**.

## SKILLS LONDON 2017

The UKs biggest jobs and careers event is taking place on **Saturday 25th November** at the Excel centre (East London).

This event is for 15-24 year olds and is an opportunity to meet over 200 exhibitors including top employers, universities and training providers.

## ROCKSCHOOL SHOWCASE

**Wednesday 29th November, Theatre, 5.00-6.00pm.**

You are warmly invited to the first Year 10/11 Rockscool Showcase of the school year!

Not only is this an opportunity for the girls to develop their music performance skills and practice in front of an audience before their controlled assessments in March, but it is an opportunity for you to enjoy a range of quality solo and group performances.

Entry is FREE and refreshments will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there!

## CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Parents and carers, please join us for our annual Christmas Fayre on **Monday 18th December**.

We have some wonderful community stalls joining us where you can purchase that last minute Christmas gift. Stalls include Popcorn-box, Neals Yard, Teapigs, handmade jewellery, and local honey.

There will also be a traditional tombola, a chocolate tombola, face-painting, balloon modelling, candy floss, popcorn, waffles, hot chocolate, a sweet stall, a pizza oven serving fresh pizza, live singing, and much more. There will be an opportunity to purchase raffle tickets to win some Teapigs goodies, a Tesco voucher, afternoon tea for 2 at The Maids of Honour, a food hamper with sweets treats, and more.



We are delighted that local Estate Agents, Quilliam, have sponsored the Fayre this year. Located on the High Street in the heart of Brentford, Quilliam Property Services team, led by Julia Quilliam offer an extensive professional and personalised service, focussing on integrity, quality assurance and approachability. Located in Brentford since 1999, their local knowledge is unsurpassed.

To find out more please call 020 8847 4737 or drop in at 206 High Street, Brentford TW8 8AH.

## CHRISTMAS CAROL EXTRAVAGANZA

**Monday 18th December, St Paul's Church, 6.00-7.30pm.**

The Christmas Extravaganza is nearly here! FREE tickets for our musical extravaganza will be available from mid-November from the Finance Office. Get yours before we sell out - but no running in the corridors! This year will see exciting collaborations from many of our talented performers and unique performances put together by our Rockschoool cohorts. Our enthusiastic singing, ukulele and boomwhacker ensembles will, of course, be showcasing their hard work too! Even better - all Year 7s will have the opportunity to perform with us, so we hope to see lots of new (and old!) Brentford parents! Refreshments will be available during the intermission.

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

**Wednesday 13th December.**

Christmas lunch in the dining hall this year will include a turkey roast, with all the trimmings and a vegetarian option. The Kitchen staff make this a truly magical experience for all students. The hall is decorated and there will also be the annual prize draw. Can we please ask that parents make sure student accounts are topped up online: the price is the same as a main meal (£2.50), including a dessert and cracker. We encourage all students to take part in this Christmas meal, even if they normally bring in a packed lunch, as it's the one time of the year that they really enjoy having lunch all together. The easiest way to top up a student account is online and anyone experiencing difficulty with this please let Ms Lort know in the Finance Department by emailing her [clort@brentford.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:clort@brentford.hounslow.sch.uk).

## FRANTIC ASSEMBLIES: OTHELLO

In December, GCSE drama students will attend a performance of *Othello* by the national youth theatre inspired and directed by the theatre practitioners Frantic Assembly. Students will also have a chance to ask the actors and directors questions after the performance, and gain a true insight into the play and its directorial decisions.

## SCHOOL PRODUCTION: HAIRSPRAY:

Students are working hard rehearsing for this years school production. Tickets will go on sale in December, and will be available from Miss Marsh in A5.

## FRIENDS OF BRENTFORD SCHOOL CHARITABLE TRUST

We are a friendly and diverse group of parents, carers and staff from Brentford School for Girls who share a passion for our school community.

We welcome everyone to join us, in whatever capacity you can manage, from serving tea and coffee on Parents Evenings to volunteering for the various fundraising and social events throughout the year.

We aim to meet several times a year to discuss issues and ideas for different ways to fundraise and how to allocate the funds we raise. The Friends of Brentford School Charitable Trust is a really good way to meet and socialise with other parents: something which is taken for granted in primary school. Please look out for future dates of meetings

If you have any questions, please contact me at [lgers@brentford.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:lgers@brentford.hounslow.sch.uk); I look forward to hearing from you.

## REMINDER FOR VISITORS

Can we please remind all parent/carers that when visiting school we do not allow any visitors to go straight into any building or classroom without first reporting to the main reception. It is absolutely imperative that we do this to protect students and staff from unwelcome visitors and once registered at Reception we can make sure that you get to see the person you need to as quickly as possible. If you have a problem with any aspect of school life then in the first instance make an appointment to see your daughter's tutor. It is not always possible to see someone immediately if you just turn up due to teaching commitments and scheduled meetings. If the problem persists and you feel it has not been addressed, Tutors/Reception staff will contact their Head of Year or another appropriate member of staff.

## YEAR 11 PARENTS' EVENING

**Thursday 7th December from 5pm to 8pm.**

This will be the only opportunity you will have this year to meet with your daughters' individual subject teachers to discuss her progress and agree strategies for support so that she achieves to her full potential in this very important year.

## YEAR 8 ACADEMIC REVIEW DAYS

**Fridays 24th November 2017.**

You will have the opportunity to meet with a member of staff to discuss your daughter's report, her end of year targets and the progress made thus far towards achieving these in her different subjects. Please look out for the letter informing you of her appointment time.

# SEND AT BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Brentford School for Girls seeks to raise achievement, remove barriers to learning and increase physical and curricular access for all. The SEND Team provides additional support for students who fall within the area of special needs. The ASD centre supports students with Autism, and aims to educate girls with special educational needs within mainstream settings, ensuring they benefit both academically and socially.

## THE TEAM

**Ms Green** - The SENCO has a BA in Art Education Studies at the University of Wales and she completed her teacher training and headship qualification at the Institute of Education. Her teaching career has been primarily in the SEND sector. She enjoys socialising with friends and family when not watching either football or rugby at the weekend.

**Ms Jones** - The deputy SENCO has a B.Ed. Hons degree at Reading University in History and Psychology. She has also completed a postgraduate course in Psychology for Special Needs at the Institute of Education. Her specialist areas are Dyslexia/specific learning difficulties, access arrangements for exams and diagnostic assessments. Ms Jones enjoys reading, going to the theatre and watching the latest films, spending time with family/friends and she has recently taken up yoga.

**Ms Coles** - The ASD unit leader completed a BA in Social Psychology at the University of Sussex. She completed her teacher training at the Institute of Education. Ms Coles enjoys working with horses, and spends her weekends volunteering at a charity riding school.



SEND and the ASD unit

## OUR AIMS

The SEND team is here to support all pupils with special educational needs and/or a disability. We are committed to removing barriers to learning and working in partnership with parents, pupils, teachers and external professionals. We aim to help students reach their potential and achieve the best possible outcomes.

The SEND team has a wide range of knowledge and experience with 3 teachers, 8 teaching assistants and 2 admin assistants. You can now find the team in one area in Pankhurst in The Hub and ASD Unit.

## BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

### EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

#### MONDAY

BREAKFAST CLUB  
07:45 - 08:30 (T1)  
ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13)  
12:50 - 13:30 (C7)  
LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB  
13:00 - 13:30 (T1)  
BOOMWHACKER ORCHESTRA  
13:00 - 13:30 (A6)  
GYMNASTICS  
13:00-13:30  
(PANKHURST GYM)  
DUKE OF EDINBURGH  
(YR 9, 10 & 11)  
15:20 - 16:20 (T3)  
FOOTBALL CLUB  
15:20-16:20 (REDGRA)  
ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13)  
15:20 - 16:30 (C7)

#### TUESDAY

BREAKFAST CLUB  
07:45 - 08:30 (T1)  
ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13)  
12:50 - 13:30 (C7)  
LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB  
13:00 - 13:30 (T1)  
NETBALL  
13:00 - 13:30 (PANKHURST GYM)  
NETBALL  
15:20 - 16:20 (PANKHURST GYM)  
ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13)  
15:20 - 16:30 (C7)

#### WEDNESDAY

BREAKFAST CLUB  
07:45 - 08:30 (T1)  
ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13)  
12:50 - 13:30 (C7)  
ATHLETICS  
12:50 - 13:30 (REDGRA)  
LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB  
13:00 - 13:30 (T1)  
SCIENCE CLUB  
(YR 7, 8 & 9)  
13:00 - 13:30 (M7)  
TRAMPOLINE  
13:00 - 13:30  
(PANKHURST GYM)  
BADMINTON  
13:00 - 13:30 (CURIE GYM)  
FITNESS  
15:20 - 16:20 (A6)  
ROCK SCHOOL (YR 10 & 11)  
15:20 - 17:00 (A6)  
SOCIAL SCIENCE SOCIETY  
(YR 10, 11 & 12)  
15:20 - 16:00 (P1)  
ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13)  
15:20 - 16:30 (C7)

#### THURSDAY

BREAKFAST CLUB  
07:45 - 08:30 (T1)  
ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13)  
12:50 - 13:30 (C7)  
MICHAEL JACKSON EXPERIENCE  
12:50 - 13:30 (THEATRE)  
LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB  
13:00 - 13:30 (T1)  
BRENTFORD SINGERS  
13:00 - 13:30 (A6)  
DODGEBALL 13:00 - 13:30  
(PANKHURST GYM)  
DUKE OF EDINBURGH  
(YR 9, 10 & 11)  
15:20 - 16:20 (T3)  
ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13)  
15:20 - 16:30 (C7)

#### FRIDAY

BREAKFAST CLUB  
07:45 - 08:30 (T1)  
ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13)  
12:50 - 13:30 (C7)  
LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB  
13:00 - 13:30 (T1)  
DANCE  
13:00 - 13:30  
(PANKHURST GYM)  
DEBATING CLUB (YR 7 & 8)  
13:00 - 13:30 (P4)  
TABLE TENNIS  
13:00 - 13:30 (CURIE GYM)  
UKULELES!  
13:00 - 13:30 (A6)  
BASKETBALL (YR 8 & 9)  
15:30 - 16:30  
(BASKETBALL COURTS)  
ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13)  
15:20 - 16:30 (C7)

## PREPARATION FOR PPES AND OTHER EXAMS

PPEs and exams in general can be stressful and daunting for students. Here are some top tips that have been given to students to help them prepare and manage the exams.

### Preparing for Exams:

- Produce a revision plan to organise your revision. Allocate 30 mins per subject and use the time wisely – ensure you know what you are revising and you have the materials prior to the 30 mins starting. Ensure you test the knowledge as well as memorise.
- Consolidate your learning regularly – produce consolidation card, mind maps and other revision materials after each topic has been covered. This will ensure that you have revision materials available when you need them (this is a good habit to get into even from Year 7!).
- Know your preferred learning style – visual, auditory or kinaesthetic. Take a VAKS leaning style test (easily accessible online) to help. However, please remember that you have learnt using all three throughout your life. When producing revision materials though, it will be useful to know your preferred style.

### Prior to the Exam:

- Get a good night's sleep. Have a nourishing breakfast and drink water – dehydration and lack of food to start the day damages concentration.
- Make sure you have all the equipment for each exam, such as extra pens, colouring pencils, calculator, anthology, texts etc.
- Get to school early. You will be agitated/concerned if you arrive late. Try to reduce stressful situations as much as possible.

### On the day of the exam:

- Ensure that you read the question carefully – understand what the question is asking you to do e.g. does it want you to write everything you know or apply your knowledge?
- Manage your emotions. If you see a question that you cannot answer, it can provoke panic/fear. If you see a question that you have revised it can lead to excitement. If either situation happens, sit back and think of something else for a short while e.g. something funny or something nice (holiday for instance).
- This will relax your brain and enable you to stay calm – this in turn means you will answer better.
- Remember, in most exams they allow 1 minute per mark at least.
- A good tip is to write at least 1 sentence per mark also to ensure you write enough.

## 6TH FORM EVENTS

We have many events coming up in the 6th form this term. These include the Christmas entertainment, organised by the 6th Form for the rest of the school, and Christmas jumper day, which will help to raise money for charity.

In addition to this we have visits to the local elderly home to look forward to in December, in which the 6th Formers arrange activities for the residents to try. See calendar for dates.

## BRENTFORD 6<sup>th</sup> FORM

"TOP 100 NON-SELECTIVE STATE-FUNDED SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND"  
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# APPLICATION DEADLINE FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER

# TERM DATES

## AUTUMN TERM 2017:

**13TH NOVEMBER - THURSDAY 20TH DECEMBER**

- 20TH NOVEMBER: YR 13 PPE WEEK BEGINS
- 23RD NOVEMBER: 6TH FORM QUIZ EVENING
- 29 NOVEMBER: REHEARSAL ROCK SCHOOL EVENING
- 01ST DECEMBER: SCHOOL CLOSED. 6TH FORM DEADLINE
- 04TH DECEMBER: YR 8 THEATRE VISIT, YR 10 PPES
- 07TH DECEMBER: 6TH FORM TESCO CHRISTMAS EVENT
- 13TH DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS LUNCH
- 15TH DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT
- 18TH DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS FAYRE AND 6TH FORM CHRISTMAS CONCERT, 6TH FORM CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY & PARTY
- 19TH DECEMBER: YR 7 PANTO TRIP
- 20TH DECEMBER: END OF TERM, 6TH FORM ELDERLY VISITS

## SPRING TERM 2018:

**THURSDAY 4TH JANUARY- THURSDAY 29TH MARCH**

- 04TH JANUARY: SPRING TERM BEGINS
- 08TH JANUARY: YR 12 PPES
- 09TH JANUARY: SO YOU WANT TO BE A... LUNCH
- 11TH JANUARY: WATERMANS ART EXHIBITION
- 12TH JANUARY: 6TH FORM INTERVIEWS
- 15TH JANUARY: DEADLINE UCAS APPLICATIONS
- 17TH JANUARY: YR 8 CAREERS DAY
- 18TH JANUARY: YR 8 OPTIONS EVENING 6-7PM
- 23RD JANUARY: SPEAK OUT CHALLENGE
- 26TH JANUARY: RE DAY
- 29TH JANUARY: Y8 PPES

# CONTACT US

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## WE'RE ONLINE!

HERE YOU WILL RECEIVE REGULAR NEWS STORIES AND UPDATES:

FACEBOOK: [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BRENTFORDSCHOOLGIRLS](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BRENTFORDSCHOOLGIRLS)

TWITTER: [WWW.TWITTER.COM/BRENTFORDSCHOOL](http://WWW.TWITTER.COM/BRENTFORDSCHOOL)

INSTAGRAM: [WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/BRENTFORDSCHOOL](http://WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/BRENTFORDSCHOOL)

BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS  
BRENTFORD 6<sup>th</sup> FORM

# ALUMNI

IF YOU ARE AN ALUMNI OF OUR SCHOOL THEN BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR NETWORK AND **HELP INSPIRE OUR FUTURE BRENTFORD GIRL**

TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION OR TO SIGN UP,  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

[WWW.BRENTFORD.HOUNSLOW.SCH.UK/COMMUNITY/ALUMNI](http://WWW.BRENTFORD.HOUNSLOW.SCH.UK/COMMUNITY/ALUMNI)

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