



# 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

As we move into the second half of the spring half term the winter feels like it has returned all over again!!! We were forced to close the school earlier on in the half term, a decision that we never make easily. Our school site is incredibly spread out and our students and staff come from many different areas. As well as the safety of students on our school site, we were concerned about staff and students' journeys to and from school. I hope that you do understand our rationale for making such a decision.

This term is very much a consolidation term in relation to the students and their learning. Year 8 have had their examination week, in which they behaved incredibly maturely and performed very well. We have also been preparing Year 11 and Sixth form for their final examinations which begin in May. All Year 11 and 13 students have been involved in taking PPEs (Pre Public Examinations) as their final practice before the real examinations begin. This is an incredibly stressful time for the students and we have counterbalanced the stress with various activities such as Yoga, and our very own 'Societies Against Stress', which have involved running a 'Blind Disco', cake baking, reading group, colouring in, playing the guitar and a sing along and tea with the Headteacher! As parents, I would like to thank you for doing your bit, reminding them to get to bed on time, not revising with a mobile phone in their hands, ensuring that they are eating breakfast in the morning, and encouraging your daughter to build in rest and social activities as well as revision. Getting a balance is so critical, and at this time of year, as the older girls are preparing for their final exams, some students do struggle to get the balance right.

As we move into the summer term, we begin our whole school planning process. Over the year we will have collected your feedback at parents evenings, monitoring weeks and in various events we have held. Your feedback is always important and as we move into reviewing what has gone well this year and how we can improve the school, we always consider suggestions you put forward. So, please feel reassured, if you fill in one of our feedback forms, we read these and wherever possible take these ideas forward.

I do hope that you find this edition of the Brentford Bulletin a useful read.

Best wishes,

Marais Leenders  
Head teacher

## 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 spring term and it is pleasing to see the students maintaining the positive start they have made to this academic year.

Healthy eating is important for everyone, especially children, to ensure that they receive all the nutrients they need to grow and develop. Eating well and being physically active will improve your children's health as well as their ability to learn and achieve at school. Encouraging your children to eat healthily now will make them more

likely to adopt a healthy lifestyle as they get older.

There has been an increase in energy drinks and family sized bags of crisps and biscuits being consumed in school. The sugar content in all of these items is extremely high and although the pupils are very keen on how these drinks taste, they are very unhealthy. Please can you advise your daughter not to purchase these items on her way to school. Energy drinks are banned from school and these will be confiscated if students bring them in. We are also advising students not to eat family sized bags of crisps and packets of biscuits or doughnuts and these will also be confiscated if brought into school. We will be talking to your daughter in assemblies and in form time about healthy eating and the benefit this can have.

## YEAR 7 2018

On the 1st of March 2018, we received the list of names of students joining us next September. We are delighted to be welcoming 30 siblings to the school (sisters of current students). We currently have a very long waiting list for Year 7 next September and we have had to manage some disappointed parents. If you do have friends and family who want to join Brentford School for Girls in the future, please remind them that they have to put down on their forms that they want to choose a girls school, or they may be disappointed. Whenever prospective parents and students visit our school they always comment on how fantastic the students are. The girls are truly our best ambassadors and always ensure that the school is looked on favourably in our school community. They really are a treasure! Details of all of our transition activities, applying for Brentford and appealing for a school place can be found on our website.

## YEAR 8 OPTIONS & PARENTS' EVENING

Students have been amazing throughout the Year 8 options process so far. They have been inquisitive and mature in finding out more about potential subjects choices at GCSE. This was shown with the good attendance to the recent taster sessions.

Students have now had the opportunity to take part in a careers day to consider their future, explore each subject in detail following the Options Evening and the assemblies in which Subject leaders were able to explain more specific detail about their courses. You will also be able to speak about the suitability of the subjects for your daughter in the upcoming parent's evening.

The next steps of the process are outlined below. Please make note of the deadline for options forms to be returned to tutors - the **28th March 2018**.

22nd March 2018	<b>Year 8 Parents' Evening</b>
28th March 2018	<b>Deadline for options forms to be returned</b>
18th April 2018	<b>Year 8 Interviews with Mr May to confirm choices where necessary</b>
23rd April 2018	<b>Year 8 Informed of their Final Option Choices</b>
30th April 2018	<b>Deadline to request changes</b>
7th May 2018	<b>Changes made and relayed to students</b>

Year 8 Parents' evening takes place on **22nd March** from 5pm to 8pm. The evening provides parents and carers the opportunity to meet with subject teachers in order to discuss your child's attainment and progress. The evening provides an excellent opportunity to discuss GCSE options with teachers. Attendance is vital, so please do ensure you are available to attend.

## YEAR 10 PARENTS' EVENING

Year 10 Parents' Evening takes place on **19th April**, between **5pm and 8pm**.

It is crucial that all year 10 students make appointments with their teachers and attend this event as it is a great way to find out how your daughter is progressing in their subjects and how to improve if necessary. There will be a prize for the form group with the highest attendance to Parents Evening.

## SO YOU WANT TO BE A... LUNCH

**So You Want to be a... Midwife**

**Tuesday 13th March (12.50pm - 1.30pm)**

Lucy Partis, a final year Midwifery undergraduate at Oxford Brookes University, will be talking to students about the realities of training towards this rewarding career supporting women and their families through pregnancy and childbirth.

**So You Want to be a... Entrepreneur**

**Tuesday 27th March (12.50pm - 1.30pm)**

We are delighted to welcome Liz Tinlin who will be presenting to students about her varied and successful career. Liz will be covering: marketing, business, entrepreneurship, consumer research, innovation, sustainability and her wildlife charity.

## CAREERS UPDATE

Our new statement of Careers Education and Guidance is now on the website with details of students' careers entitlement at each Key Stage.

As you are aware, the school is currently working towards the Quality in Careers Standard and we are in the process of being assessed for Stage 2. Please look out for further announcements

For more information on the award, please see:  
<http://www.qualityincareers.org.uk>

## YOU SAID... WE DID: PARENTS' EVENINGS

Thank you for the feedback that you have given at Year 9 and Sixth Form parents evening and as part of the Year 10 monitoring week. The feedback was really positive overall, however, there were a couple of areas that parents and carers reported could be improved:

- **Sixth Form lessons not covered** – Cover is monitored on a half termly basis and we do try, where possible, to ensure that Sixth Form lessons are covered. All lessons in Year 7-11 are covered and take priority during busy periods. We will continue to monitor the potential impact on Sixth Form lessons.
- **Sixth Form bursary payments** – Parents and carers had identified that their son or daughter had not received a bursary payment. If students have a missing mark and/or are late on more than one occasion, then bursary payments are not made. All students have been given an accurate copy of their attendance and punctuality and have been asked to see Ms Shah, should there be an issue with accuracy.
- **Lack of homework in Year 9** – Ms Minors, Head of Year 9 will continue to monitor the amount of homework set and the recording of homework in journals. All students are expected to record their homework in their journals. If you have any further queries, please do inform your daughter's tutor.
- **Broken wall at St Paul's Gate** – Unfortunately, due to the bad weather, there has been a delay in fixing the wall near the St Paul's gate entrance. We are currently working with an external company and the council to ensure that the wall will be fixed as soon as possible. Many thanks for your patience with this.

## ROCKSCHOOL ROADSHOW

Rockschool Roadshow - every lunchtime in the Theatre **12th-16th March 2018**

Coming soon to a BSfG Theatre near you - the inaugural Rockschool Roadshow!

It's nearly time for our talented Year 10 and 11 musicians to do their final performances for their Music coursework. And what better way to celebrate, than to show off to you!

Every lunchtime for a whole week there will be two (yes, two!) 12-minute gigs planned and performed by our KS4 Music students.

Tickets are available now from Miss Shute. Be quick - it's first come, first served!

## ROME CONFERENCE

On the **17th of April** two of our students with two teachers are representing the school at the Future Youth Schools Forum in Rome. This is a 'multiplier event' bringing together students and teachers from schools across Europe to consider world issues. Last year we ran a forum at Brentford on People Forced to Flee and this year it has been on Gender Equality, two major world issues affecting all of us. The culmination of this work by the girls is to have two of them represent the school to discuss these and other issues with their peers in Italy, Cyprus, Lithuania and Poland, and to forge new international contacts. It will also build upon the webinars they have been involved with over the last couple of years, allowing them to meet face to face with some of the students they have met on Skype. It is also a brilliant chance to see the eternal city.

## HOUSE COMPETITION

This half term's competition will be benchball, taking place on **27th April**. The Interhouse Quiz took place at the end of last term and all of the pupils competed as tutor groups to see whose general knowledge was the best in the school. Well done to the winners – Reflective House.

The overall leaders in the housepoint competition are still Inquisitive House – well done to all of those girls who have contributed to their impressive total so far this year.

## SPONSOR US

Brentford School is keen to bring the academic year sponsor opportunities under one sponsor umbrella.

What benefits would sponsoring our events offer you?

- A prominent visual banner on the front of our school railings promoting the fairs with your name on it
- Local press coverage on the TW8 community website & the Chiswick Herald
- Inclusion in our Brentford Bulletin Publication – which goes home to all students half termly
- Inclusion in our Highlights Magazine - goes home to all students
- Constant Twitter, Facebook and Instagram promotion of our sponsors (we often boost our posts in the run up to our Fairs so the reach we get is wide)
- Flyers on the school community board advertising your business
- A table at both fairs to promote the business
- Inclusion on our school website detailing the sponsorship
- Your Company name on our netball kit

The Summer Fair takes place on **Saturday 30th June 12pm - 3pm** and our Christmas Fayre is on **Tuesday 18th December 3.20pm - 5.30pm**. Both events are always lovely wider school events with many school stalls (with lots of students and staff taking part) and many community stalls selling a wide range of items from handmade jewellery to Neal's Yard products. Additionally our netball team plays all year round.

Over the next year we aim to secure £1,000 in sponsorship; this would cover all of our printing costs including the banner and the flyers plus the cost of the netball bibs and shirts. If this is of interest to you please contact Liz Gers at [lgers@brentford.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:lgers@brentford.hounslow.sch.uk)

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

The aim of the Religious Studies department at Brentford School for Girls is to develop the Brentford Girl as a well-balanced and tolerant member of society who is aware of our rich and diverse community. Our aim for each and every student is to reach their learning potential and attain a final grade at or beyond their target level. Our motto is that 'no barriers', whether academic or pastoral should impede academic success. The department will strive to give the best learning experience to all students that inspires wonder, and a thirst for knowledge and understanding. Our department aims to contribute to the spiritual and moral development of our students and the school community. We encourage our students to be critical thinkers in the exploration of religion, faith and the ethical issues they will encounter in life. We will ensure that this can take place in a safe and nurturing environment where every student is confident to share and discuss their own beliefs and values with others.

## THE TEAM

**Mr A McInnes** I grew up in Cairns, Australia. This was a beautiful place to grow up surrounded by the Great Barrier Reef and a pristine rainforest. After graduating from high school I worked in various jobs including being a crocodile wrestler (true story honest!) before deciding to become a teacher. I attended James Cook University in Townsville where I completed a Bachelor in Education. After graduating I moved to London to begin my teaching career. I worked in various school, across the country, including Brentford where I have been for the past decade .

**Ms L Cornwell** I was lucky enough to grow up and go to school in the historic Cotswolds. After finishing high school I attended the University of Manchester to study History and Philosophy. After completing my degree I worked in the finance industry. This work took me to Australia where I worked in Melbourne for a couple of years. Sensing I needed a career change I moved to London to complete a teacher training course at Roehampton university. I then worked at an Ealing school for a number of years before starting at Brentford this year as the Head of 6th form.



## WHAT STUDENTS LEARN AT KEY STAGE 3

In Years 7 and 8 students learn about and from various religious themes and explore them through global religious perspectives. Students also partake in some philosophical units that are designed to tackle the 'Big Questions' raised in life. Does God exist? Why do we suffer? What happens when we die? Students are encouraged to engage in healthy debate and share their beliefs on these and many more ultimate questions.

## WHAT STUDENTS LEARN AT KEY STAGE 4

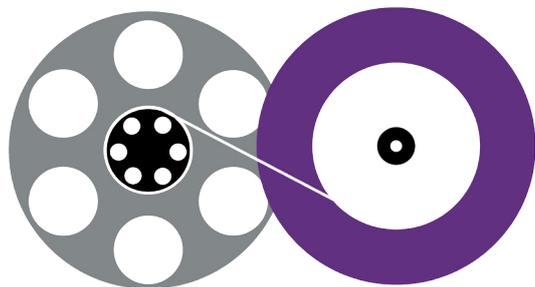
Years 9 to 11 study GCSE Religion and Life and Religion and Society. Students in this course explore contemporary moral issues from a Christian and Islamic perspective. Non-religious perspectives are encouraged as well. Students:

- Adopt an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of religion
- Explore religions and beliefs, reflect on fundamental questions, and engage with them
- Intellectually and respond personally
- Enhance their spiritual and moral development, and contribute to their health and wellbeing
- Enhance their personal, social and cultural development, their understanding of different cultures locally, nationally and in the wider world, and contribute to social and community cohesion
- Develop their interest in, and enthusiasm for, the study of religion, and relate it to the wider world
- Reflect on and develop their own values, opinions and attitudes in light of their learning.

BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BREAKFAST CLUB 07:45 - 08:30 (T1)	BREAKFAST CLUB 07:45 - 08:30 (T1)	BREAKFAST CLUB 07:45 - 08:30 (T1)	BREAKFAST CLUB 07:45 - 08:30 (T1)	BREAKFAST CLUB 07:45 - 08:30 (T1)
ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13) 12:50 - 13:30 (C7)	ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13) 12:50 - 13:30 (C7)	ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13) 12:50 - 13:30 (C7)	ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13) 12:50 - 13:30 (C7)	ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13) 12:50 - 13:30 (C7)
LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB 13:00 - 13:30 (T1)	LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB 13:00 - 13:30 (T1)	LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB 13:00 - 13:30 (T1)	MICHAEL JACKSON EXPERIENCE 12:50 - 13:30 (THEATRE)	LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB 13:00 - 13:30 (T1)
GYMNASTICS 13:00-13:30 (PANKHURST GYM)	NETBALL 13:00 - 13:30 (PANKHURST GYM)	SCIENCE CLUB (YR 7, 8 & 9) 13:00 - 13:30 (M7)	YOGA (YR 11) 12:55 - 13:25 (CURIE GYM)	DANCE 13:00 - 13:30 (PANKHURST GYM)
DUKE OF EDINBURGH (YR 9, 10 & 11) 15:20 - 16:20 (T3)	NETBALL 15:20 - 16:20 (PANKHURST GYM)	TRAMPOLINE 13:00 - 13:30 (PANKHURST GYM)	LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB 13:00 - 13:30 (T1)	KARAOKE 13:00 - 13:30 (DRAMA)
ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13) 15:20 - 16:30 (C7)	ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13) 15:20 - 16:30 (C7)	BADMINTON 13:00 - 13:30 (CURIE GYM)	BRENTFORD SINGERS 13:00 - 13:30 (A6)	GAMES CLUB (YR 7, 8 & 9) 13:00 - 13:30 (P3)
TEXTILES CLUB (YR 7, 8 & 9) 15:30 - 16:30 (D2)	PUBLICATION PLATFORM 15:30 - 16:30 (C7)	DEBATE MATE (YR 7, 8, 9 & 10) 15:30 - 16:30 (M14)	DODGEBALL 13:00 - 13:30 (PANKHURST GYM)	UKULELES! 13:00 - 13:30 (A6)
	BAKE OFF (YR 7 & 8) 15:30-16:30 (D1)	FITNESS 15:20 - 16:20 (A6)	DUKE OF EDINBURGH (YR 9, 10 & 11) 15:20 - 16:20 (T3)	GENDER EQUALITY FORUM 15:20 - 16:20 (C1)
		ROCK SCHOOL (YR 10 & 11) 15:20 - 17:00 (A6)	ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13) 15:20 - 16:30 (C7)	ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13) 15:20 - 16:30 (C7)
		ART GCSE (YR 10 - 13) 15:20 - 16:30 (C7)		

## FILM PREMIERE

Every year, Brentford School for Girls holds a film premiere to showcase the work of the GCSE and A level Media and Film Studies students. This year will be even bigger and better than last, of course. More films, more music videos and more prizes. The date has not yet been published so watch this space!



BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS  
BRENTFORD 6 FORM

# Summer FAIR

PIMMS BAR	BBQ
CRAFT STALLS	BOUNCY CASTLE
SPONGE A TEACHER	CIRCUS SKILLS
ICE CREAM	RAFFLE
	CREAM TEAS

**30TH JUNE 2018**  
12pm - 3pm

BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS  
BRENTFORD 6 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)

VISION | EXCELLENCE | CREATIVITY

# TERM DATES

## SPRING TERM 2018:

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

- 12TH MARCH: INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR & ROCKSHOOL ROADSHOW
- 14TH MARCH: WELCOME TO BRENTFORD YR 6 EVENING (5PM-6PM)
- 18TH MARCH: DUKE OF EDINBURGH PRACTICE WALK
- 22ND MARCH: YEAR 8 PARENTS' EVENING (5PM - 8PM)
- 26TH MARCH: YEAR 11 ACADEMIC REVIEW
- 27TH MARCH: SO YOU WANT TO BE A... LUNCH
- 28TH MARCH: LUNCH TIME TALENT SHOW, GCSE DRAMA EXAM
- 29TH MARCH: YR8 OPTIONS SUBMISSION, END OF TERM (12:30PM)
- 30TH MARCH - 13TH APRIL: EASTER HOLIDAYS

## SUMMER TERM 2018:

**MONDAY 16TH APRIL - THURSDAY 29TH MARCH**

- 15TH APRIL - 18TH APRIL: INTERNATIONALISM ABROAD VISIT
- 16TH APRIL: INSET DAY
- 17TH APRIL: START OF SUMMER TERM FOR STUDENTS
- 19TH APRIL: YEAR 10 PARENTS' EVENING
- 23RD APRIL: YEAR 9 PPES

# CONTACT US

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## WE'RE ONLINE!

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)

— DELICIOUS STREET FOOD - ARTISAN BREAD —  
MEAT & POULTRY - FISH & SEAFOOD - FRUIT & VEG  
FINE CHEESES - HANDMADE PIES - CAKES & PASTRIES



MARKET PLACE, BRENTFORD HIGH STREET, TW8 8AH