



# 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,

I hope that you all enjoyed a very restful Easter break. This term is a really busy term in school as students are preparing for their GCSE and A level examinations. The girls have been incredibly focused over the last few months, soaking up every opportunity for extra classes which have been available to them on Saturdays and during the school holidays. Our forecasts, as a school, show that we are looking forward to some outstanding examination results yet again this summer. Our best wishes to all of the girls and their families who are taking public examinations this summer.

The summer term is also the time of the year when we begin to review what has gone well over the last year and where we could do better. All of the feedback that you provide as a parent body feeds into these discussions. The questionnaires that you complete at parents evenings, during monitoring week etc. are considered as part of the school's review processes. Please keep your feedback coming as it is always so refreshing to listen to what you think about the journey of the school.

Over the next few months there are a number of fun and exciting events happening across the school. April will see our 'Film Fest', where students will showcase their media and film studies work. During May, we have our Record of Achievement event for Year 11 and Sixth Form graduation. June sees our annual Art exhibition, which is a fantastic event for both students, parents and other members of the school community to attend. Finally, it is the annual activities week and sports day in July. So, it is a busy term ahead. We will be keeping you informed through email, text messages and by letter for some events. If you have changed your contact details, can you please let us know so that we are able to communicate with you as we currently do.

Thank you for your support in ensuring that your daughters were in perfect uniform and ready to learn for the start of this term.

I look forward to working with you again this term.

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. The school has extremely high expectations of both behaviour and discipline, as well as how pupils present themselves both in and out of school.

The school uniform is something we are proud of, as it offers each pupil a sense of belonging and creates a positive identity for the school in the community. A school uniform teaches students to dress smartly and take pride in their appearance, as well as prepare students for when they leave school and may have to dress smartly or wear a uniform in the work place.

We strongly believe that a school uniform can improve learning by offering a 'ready to work' mentality, sharpening focus within lessons

and making the classroom a more productive working environment, allowing students to perform to the best of their abilities. It is compulsory for all pupils to arrive to school in full school uniform. The school uniform list is available on the school website. It is our expectation that the uniform is worn correctly including the school blazer, shirt (Summer shirt this term), school tie, black formal trousers (no lycra or tight fitted materials), the school skirt- which must remain at knee length, black tights or black knee length or ankle socks and a pair of black formal school shoes. Jewellery is limited to one small pair of studded earrings and a watch. PE kit is also part of the schools uniform and must include the school t-shirt with logo, black school fleece with logo, white socks, sports trainers (suitability at the discretion of the PE staff), plain black tracksuit bottoms or black shorts. Can we also ask that students haircuts and styles are in line with the school policy. Students are not allowed dyed, braided or multi coloured hairstyles or styles that are offensive (e.g. shaved/ partly shaved, including eyebrows).

If pupils fail to uphold the schools uniform policy, appropriate sanctions will be put in place in line with the schools behaviour and uniform policy. It is the schools aim to ensure that all pupils have access to the school uniform and would therefore invite you to contact us where help may be required. A uniform list will be sent home prior to the end of the summer term informing you of the schools current uniform list and any changes that take effect in the new academic year. Pupils arriving in September who are not appropriately dressed in full school uniform will be asked to return home to change. The Brentford School uniform is exclusively available from SANCO in Hounslow and must only be purchased from this shop. Also find them at [www.sanco.co.uk](http://www.sanco.co.uk). I look forward to your continued support in upholding the expectations and strong reputation of Brentford School.

## YEAR 7 PARENTS' EVENING

Year 7 Parents' evening is taking place on **24th May, between 5pm and 8pm**. It is an excellent chance for parents and carers to meet their daughter's teachers and learn about the progress in their studies.

Students should book appointments with their teachers allowing a 5 minute slot.

We look forward to welcoming you to such a crucial evening in your daughter's education.

## YEAR 11 LEAVERS' CELEBRATION

Year 11 students will be invited to bring up to two guests to a Celebration Ceremony on **Friday 25th May from 2pm to 3:30pm**.

There will be speeches, refreshments and entertainment in the Hall. Look out for your invitation in the post!

## GDPR

From the 25th May 2018, new regulations will be introduced which affect how our school handles people's data. This is called the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Compliance with the regulations will be an ongoing process and the school have appointed a data protection officer to advise and manage compliance with the regulation.

Full details of our data protection officer are - Craig Stilwell - Judicium Consulting Limited, 72 Cannon Street, London, EC4N 6AE - email: [dataservices@judicium.com](mailto:dataservices@judicium.com), telephone number: 0203 326 9174. This information is available on our school website under

contacts, should you ever have the need to contact them or have any questions.

We will be updating and publicising policies, procedures and notices that are compliant with the new regulations in the coming months and will keep you informed of any developments. For the time being, your child's data will be handled in the same manner in accordance with legal principles.

In the meantime we thank you for your patience whilst we take the necessary steps set by the new legislation and guidance with handling data.

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

So You Want to be an... Engineer

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May (12.50pm - 1.30pm)

This term, students will be hearing from Eimear Doyle, an Engineer, and Charlotte Ross, an Environmental & Quality Advisor, who both work for construction company McAleer and Rushe

Students should book a place by logging onto CHQ or emailing Ms Brown

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The girls are busy preparing routes and completing their training to be able to put their abilities to the test in their first expedition **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May** in Chalfont St Peter. This will be their first unaccompanied walk where they will be navigating a circular route to and from the camp site. Keep up the hard work ladies and let's hope the weather is better than your first walk.

## HOUSE COMPETITION CRICKET

The House Cricket Competition is taking place this term. The girls will be competing against each other to win the Cricket Trophy. Look out for the results in the next issue.

## YOU SAID... WE DID

Thank you for the feedback that you have given. The feedback was really positive overall, however, there were a couple of areas that parents and carers reported could be improved:

**Toilet cleanliness** - Pupil toilets are cleaned on rotation three times during the school day. The schools caretakers fix broken or unlocked toilets when they are made aware of damage and each set of toilets is checked by the schools site staff during the school holidays.

**Assemblies are too long** - Assemblies are part of the school day and an essential part of each pupils week where important messages as well as social, moral, spiritual and culturally themed assemblies can be shared by staff as well as guest speakers with the pupils. Mr Dexter will be reviewing the assemblies and will meet with a group of students to seek feedback as to what each year group would like. We aim to ensure that the assembly themes are fit for purpose and engaging for each year group.

**Clubs** - Mr McInnes has reviewed these and a new programme has been published this term to ensure that pupils are fully aware of the extensive extra-curricular programme that will be running in the summer term. All of the extra-curricular details can be found on the schools website and on the third page of this Bulletin.

**Stress and anxiety** - Miss Coleman is currently investigating how students can be empowered across the curriculum from September 2018. Stress and anxiety is covered in both assemblies as well as PSHCEE lessons and pupils. If you have any further queries or concerns, please do inform your daughters tutor.

**Noise in some lessons** - Some pupils felt English lessons could be noisy at times. Some lessons are more interactive than others and as a result the noise level in the class can often change. I have passed on concerns to the head of the English department to ensure when a lesson calls for quiet study, the class remains quiet.

**Revision/Exam help** - Miss Giddens is working hard to create revision packs, which contain exam papers for each subject, revision material and a copy of subject PLCs to help every student across the year group. This has also been passed onto subject teachers for consideration in their lessons.

## TALKING TEETH

Following a successful Wellbeing Week in March, Dr Batavia at Ravenscourt Dental Practice has provided an insightful look into how to care for our teeth and what its like to be a dentist. Please read carefully as there is a chance to enter a great competition to win an Airfloss Pro!

How often should we go to the dentist?

If you are under 18 you should visit the dentist at least once a year, unless the dentist specifically recommends twice a year. The benefits are that you will receive advice and help with preventative oral hygiene techniques. This will help you look after your teeth properly in the long term, you will need a lot less dental treatment, and probably save yourself a lot of money.

What is the best way to brush our teeth?

Understand your teeth, how they are shaped and sit against each other, so for example try dividing your mouth into six segments: lower right; left, front and upper right; left and front; and then divide time equally when brushing each segment.

Visualise each tooth as a box without a bottom, you can brush 3 out of 5 surfaces and need to floss 2 out of 5 surfaces.

Start brushing at gum level, to remove the plaque sitting around the gum line. Then brush the rest of the tooth surface. Plaque is sticky, like peanut butter, so you need to go back and forth about 5-6 times. Repeat on each segment including the biting surface, moving slowly and putting enough pressure so that you really scrub your teeth properly.

An extra step is to use disclosing solution, it colours the areas where plaque is left. You will be surprised to see how much plaque can be left on the teeth! My tip is to use this solution, twice a week for a month, you'll soon see the areas you're missing out.

Seeing a dentist and a hygienist regularly also helps.

Flossing is very important because it cleans 40% of your teeth – remember the 2 out of 5 surfaces - a statistic most people don't know!

When flossing, gently see-saw the floss between your teeth rather than push and tug. Take it to the gum edge, and do the same on the opposite side because each space is a V shape.

Which foods and drinks are the worst for causing tooth decay?

Anything that tastes sweet is probably going to damage your teeth.

Refined sugars are sweets, chocolates, biscuits, smoothies and even yoghurts which contain fruit syrups.

Naturally occurring sugars, are found in all fruit and fruit juices, fruit squash drinks, dried fruit and honey.

I hope everyone likes their Oyster card holders which you received during Wellbeing week...

For the chance to win an Airfloss Pro, be creative and make a poster featuring healthy foods and the sugar they contain versus various processed foods and how many teaspoons of sugar. So you could research fruit and vegetables, brown rice, eggs versus a yoghurt, tomato ketchup, a tin of baked beans, a can of cola, a small smoothie, a cereal bar, or anything else you can think of.

Entries must be handed in to Wellbeing within two weeks and we will announce the winner a week later in assembly and entries will be featured on our website and our Facebook page.

Good luck!

*Dr Hitesh Batavia, Ravenscourt Dental Practice.*

## NETBALL SPONSOR

We, at Spa de Sal, are delighted to be sponsoring the Brentford School for Girls' netball team. We wish them much success during the coming year and hope they have been inspired by England's Netball team winning gold at the Commonwealth Games recently.

Salt therapy at Spa de Sal helps to expand lung capacity, improve muscle function, and strengthen the immune system.

5 London Road, Brentford, TW8 8JB

020 8582 8971, enquiries@spadesal.com



# MUSIC

## AT BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Music is a key component of the Brentford curriculum, giving our girls the opportunity to learn instruments, explore the music of different cultures, and develop their memory, motor, social, expressive, listening and literacy skills. They experience a range of Music styles through singing, instrumental work, group and solo performing, and composing.

### MISS SHUTE

I've always wanted to be teacher; my family joke it's because I've always been loud and loved taking charge of things even as a toddler! Toddler me first picked up the recorder, which I'm sure my parents enjoyed(!), and this was followed closely by the ocarina and clarinet when I was 7. But it was only after being taught in the fantastic Music Department at South Downs College (Portsmouth) for my A Levels that I realised how much I loved music and that I actually wanted to teach it too. From there, I went to Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge, to study Music. After I completed my PGCE, somehow I ended up in London and landed here at Brentford! This is now my fifth year at the school.

### WHAT STUDENTS LEARN AT KEY STAGE 3

In Year 7 the focus is on developing instrumental, singing, ensemble and basic theory skills so the girls can discover and develop their interests, and in Year 8 we take those skills and interests and put them to use across a number of themed projects.

- Boomwhackers! - Developing ensemble skills such as timing and leadership.
- Ukulele skills – Developing instrumental skills, such as playing chords, strumming and finger-picking.
- Keyboard skills – Developing instrumental skills such as playing with independent hands, creating bass lines and fluency.
- Singing – Developing our voices individually, as well as singing together in harmony, to create quality whole-class vocal performances.
- Samba drumming – Bringing the spirit and rhythms of Rio carnival to Brentford! Developing ensemble, rhythm and leadership skills.
- Band Skills – Developing band and ensemble skills (musical and social!); learning a basic drumming pattern and bass guitar.
- Cover songs – Our students get into bands to create a cover version of their chosen song.
- Song Writing – Each student will get the opportunity to write their own song, on their own or as part of a small group.



### WHAT STUDENTS LEARN AT KEY STAGE 4

At Key Stage 4 we now offer the RSL Level 2 Music Practitioner course (Performing and Composing options). This is a vocational qualification that is highly regarded by sixth form colleges and universities alike. It is a practical course that gives our girls lots of opportunities to perform and compose both inside and outside the classroom! This is an amazing opportunity for them to not only to explore a subject they enjoy, but to collaborate with other musicians in the school who they may never have worked with before.

Students get 1:1 and small group support in developing their existing musicianship skills, as well as encouragement to pursue new ideas and interests to support their growth as musicians. There are opportunities to perform at school events and assemblies.

We spend Year 9 preparing, Year 10 completing the coursework, and Year 11 with Theory work and exploring options and interests.

### EXTRA-CURRICULAR

The extra-curricular side of the department is growing year-on-year. Our current ensembles include Samba Band, Ukulele Orchestra, Boomwhackers and Choir but we are always expanding, so keep an eye out for new groups! Our annual Christmas Extravaganza is followed by various other opportunities including the Summer Fair, termly Talent Shows and a variety of informal shows during the school day. We also offer peripatetic instrument lessons, provided by tutors from Hounslow Music Service. Currently this includes singing, piano and guitar lessons.

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)
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)
ROUNDERS (YR 7) 13:00 - 13:30 (REDGRA)	ROUNDERS (YR 8 & 9) 13:00 - 13:30 (REDGRA)	SCIENCE CLUB (YR 7 - 9) 13:00 - 13:30 (M7)	LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB 13:00 - 13:30 (T1)	CRICKET (YR 7 - 12) 13:00 - 13:30 (REDGRA)
SAMBA BAND (YR 7 - 12) 13:00 - 13:30 (A6)	BEGINNERS BALLET (YR 7 - 9) 13:00 - 13:30 (CURIE GYM)	ATHLETICS (YR 7 - 10) 13:00 - 13:30 (REDGRA)	BRENTFORD SINGERS 13:00 - 13:30 (A6)	GAMES CLUB (YR 7 - 9) 13:00 - 13:30 (P3)
DUKE OF EDINBURGH (YR 9 - 11) 15:20 - 16:20 (T3)	ART CATCH-UP (YR 10 - 13) 15:20 - 16:30 (C7)	CRICKET (YR 7 - 12) 13:00 - 13:30 (REDGRA)	BEGINNERS SPANISH (YR 7 - 10) 13:00 - 13:30 (B2)	BEGINNERS UKRAINIAN / RUSSIAN (YR 7 & 8) 13:00 - 13:30 (6TH FORM)
ART CATCH-UP (YR 10 - 13) 15:20 - 16:30 (C7)	BOXING (YR 13) 15:30 - 16:30	BADMINTON 13:00 - 13:30 (CURIE GYM)	ROUNDERS 13:00 - 13:30 (REDGRA)	UKULELES AND GUITAR! 13:00 - 13:30 (A6)
TEXTILES CLUB (YR 7 - 9) 15:30 - 16:30 (D2)	PUBLICATION PLATFORM 15:30 - 16:30 (C7)	DEBATE MATE (YR 7 - 10) 15:30 - 16:30 (M14)	ART CATCH-UP (YR 10 - 13) 15:20 - 16:30 (C7)	GENDER EQUALITY FORUM 15:20 - 16:20 (C1)
	BAKE OFF (YR 7 & 8) 15:30 - 16:30 (D1)	ALTERNATIVE WEEKS ART CATCH-UP (YR 10 - 13) 15:20 - 16:30 (C7)		ART CATCH-UP (YR 10 - 13) 15:20 - 16:30 (C7)
	ALTERNATIVE WEEKS			BASKETBALL (YR 8 & 9) 15:30 - 16:30 (COURTS)

AMBITIOUS | CONFIDENT | COURAGEOUS | FLEXIBLE | INQUISITIVE | REFLECTIVE

## SUMMER FAIR

The Summer Fair takes place on **Saturday 30th June 12pm - 3pm**. This is a lovely wider school event with many school stalls (with lots of students and staff taking part) and community stalls selling a wide range of items.

BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS  
BRENTFORD & FORM

# Summer FAIR

PIMMS BAR	BBQ
CRAFT STALLS	LIVE MUSIC
SPONGE A TEACHER	NEAL'S YARD
ICE CREAM	RAFFLE
	CREAM TEAS

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

Sponsored by **Dexters**

A massive thank you to Dexters who are sponsoring our Summer Fair for the 2nd year running.

If you think all Estate Agents are the same, you haven't worked with Dexters. They are different. Everything they do will give you an altogether better experience of selling or letting your property.

Dexters are currently arranging up to 45,000 viewing appointments a month for active buyers and tenants across the capital. People are out in force, moving forward with their property plans, jumping in where they see good value, good location or both.

Their office in Chiswick is supported by 70 Dexters offices across the capital, with 35 offices in Central London. If you are thinking of selling or letting your property, or would like some market advice, talk to one of their local experts: contactable 7 days a week from 8am - 8pm.

Dexters Chiswick Sales - 020 8995 4321

Dexters Chiswick Lettings - 020 8995 5439

For more information about the summer fair or if you are interested in taking a stall please contact Liz Gers lgers@brentford.hounslow.sch.uk

## SPEED READ EVENT

On **Monday 11th of June**, a small group of Year 8 students will be taking part in Speed Read event hosted by Schools Library Service. Tony Dallas will be introducing students to the participants of Speed Read and students will engage in promoting their favourite book to pupils from other Hounslow schools.

The winning title will be announced at the end of this event and prizes will be given to the best presentation and best book. We wish our students the best of luck on the day!

# TERM DATES

## SUMMER TERM 2018:

**MONDAY 16TH APRIL - FRIDAY 20TH JULY**

- 01ST MAY: PUBLIC EXAMS BEGIN
- 07TH MAY: MAY DAY, SCHOOL CLOSED
- 08TH MAY: YEAR 8 VACCINATIONS
- 11TH MAY: YEAR 13 GRADUATION
- 16TH MAY: RAMADAN BEGINS
- 21ST MAY: YEAR 6 INTO 7 INTERVIEWS
- 22ND MAY: SO YOU WANT TO BE A... LUNCH
- 25TH MAY: END OF TERM
- 04TH JUNE: INSET DAY
- 05TH JUNE: RETURN TO SCHOOL
- 06TH JUNE: WELCOME TO YEAR 11 MEETING
- 21ST JUNE: ART EXHIBITION 5-8PM
- 25TH JUNE: YEAR 10 PPES
- 26TH JUNE: SO YOU WANT TO BE A... LUNCH
- 27TH JUNE: ART EXHIBITION ENDS
- 30TH JUNE: SUMMER FAIR 12-3PM
- 02ND JULY: HEADSTART DAY
- 03RD JULY: YEAR 6 INDUCTION DAY
- 05TH JULY - 07TH JULY: YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY TRIP
- 06TH JULY: YEAR 11 PROM
- 07TH JULY: 6TH FORM PROM
- 12TH - 13TH JULY: BRENTFORD FUTURES
- 14TH JULY: DUKE OF EDINBURGH WEEKEND
- 16TH JULY: SPORTS DAY
- 17TH - 19TH JULY: ACTIVITIES WEEK
- 20TH JULY: END OF SUMMER TERM

# 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)

BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS  
BRENTFORD & 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