

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 MESSAGE

Dear Parents & Carers,

I am delighted to welcome you back to the new academic year and hope that you have all had a wonderful summer break. A huge congratulations to Year 11 and our sixth formers who have all had a very successful summer achieving another set of fantastic results! We have even had a student in Year 10 achieve a grade 9 in her maths GCSE, one year earlier than she should have been sitting it! Well done also to our Year 10 students, many of them who achieved their English literature GCSE one year earlier in Year 10. Many of the sixth form will now be off to university and we wish them luck as they move onto a new journey.

Welcome to our Year 7 students and their families. They have only been in school a few days, but it already feels as though they have adapted well to the secondary school setting. They have shown huge confidence, many of them already making new friendships and volunteering to get involved in what's going on across the school!

Over the summer, we have been busy across the school continuing our programme of refurbishments. We have created a beautiful landscaped garden in the centre of the school, refurbished the Year 8 base and toilets, redecorated the canteen and completed work in numerous other areas across the school. Our biggest refurbishment over the summer has been the school reception. Reception has now moved to the front of the school and has been completely refurbished. We have wanted to do this for some time as it feels much safer and is easier to access for parents and visitors should they need to come on site. It has already made an enormous difference to us and we hope that you will like it when you see it.

Our priorities this year will be again to focus on the 'marginal gains'. As a school we have done so much work over the last few years to improve, but we know there is still more we would like to do! Focusing on our curriculum and ensuring that it provides breath and enjoyment for our students both within the classroom and through our extra curricular provision will be critical. We have developed an exciting extra curricular programme for this year and we hope that the girls will all sign up to be involved in order to broaden their skill set and enjoyment.

Thank you for your support in ensuring that the girls have returned to school looking their very best again this year, and with such positive attitudes. Looking forward to working with you all again this year

With best wishes,



Ms Leenders
Headteacher

CATS TESTS AND LITERACY WORKSHOPS

As part of the induction process, Year 7 students take a Cognitive Ability Test (CAT) and take part in a literacy workshop. Both are designed to give us, as a school, the information we need to support your daughters and the students to have the tools to enhance their literacy skills.

YEAR 11 CAREERS INTERVIEWS

Throughout the year, Year 11 students will have access to important careers information. As part of the process, Ms Brown will meet with all students one-to-one to establish what their intentions are post-16 and offer impartial information, advice and guidance as necessary. All students have access to Unifrog, an on-line careers exploration package, to independently research careers and record their own successes.

YEAR 7 PHOTOGRAPHS

All Year 7 students will have their first school photos taken at Brentford. With new uniforms and fresh from the summer holidays, this is the ideal time for these important first photos to be taken. Information on how to order the photographs will be sent to parents.

KS5 SUBJECT TALKS TO YEAR 11

Throughout the week beginning the 18th September, all Year 11 students will be presented information about courses available Post-16 at Brentford. These talks will take place during tutor time and will be the first step in getting students thinking about sixth form.

SYWBA (SO YOU WANT TO BE A...) CAREERS TALK

On Tuesday 19th September, our first SYWBA careers talk of the year welcomes Cianan Whelan, a Political Campaigns Co-ordinator. The SYWBA talks are conducted by professionals in different industries and fields to give our students the knowledge they need to make informed choices. Students interested in politics should sign up with their tutor for this early bird talk, which comes with breakfast.

WELCOME TO YEAR 11 PARENT EVENT

On Thursday 21st September, Year 11 parents and students are invited to attend an information evening to discuss the year ahead between 6pm and 7pm. As with all parent events, we try to combine giving information as well as encouraging interaction with staff and other parents to build on our community spirit.

YEAR 7 MEET THE TUTORS EVENT

We would like to invite Year 7 parents to attend an event on Thursday 21st September to meet with your daughter's tutor and discuss how she has settled.

YEAR 6 OPEN MORNINGS & OPEN EVENING

We are delighted to invite Year 6 parents and students to our open events in September and October. These are events that involve both staff and students alike in welcoming prospective new members of our community and to showcase our wonderful school.

This will include our Open Evening on Thursday 5th October. On this day, school will be ending at 2.20pm for students to be able to go home and rest before helping make the evening such a success.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Our celebration of diversity will continue throughout the academic year and includes Black History Month (BHM) which is celebrated in October.

This year, the UK theme will be 'Celebrating our sisters (black women), saluting our sisters (black women), and honouring matriarchs of movements'. This is an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the outstanding achievements of black women to the UK (and beyond).

As we have done in previous years, BHM is an opportunity for all departments to deliver an inclusive curriculum which celebrates the contribution of black people to their respective sectors/subject areas and deliver content which compliments the theme for the month.

6TH FORMER FOR A DAY

On Friday 29th September, our Year 11 students will get the chance to experience the 'Day in the life of a 6th Former'. This day will give our Year 11 students the opportunity to come to school in their own smart business attire and be taught 6th Form lessons. On this day they will have the same privileges as Sixth Formers during breaks and lunches too, as well as getting the opportunity to meet with Year 13s and ask them questions.

6TH FORM OPEN EVENING

Following our invitation to Year 6s to visit the school and find out about the next stage in their journeys, we will be holding a similar event for Year 11s to highlight our 6th Form opportunities.

Brentford Sixth Form prides itself on its inclusive nature and we encourage students to come along, speak to staff and students about what we offer. Therefore, following the 6th Former for a Day event we are very excited to welcome prospective students to our Sixth Form Open Evening. Year 11 students and parents who already attend Brentford will be joined by students and parents who are also interested in finding out what A levels we offer and having the opportunity to speak with subject teachers. To find out more and sign up for the event go to our website: <https://www.brentford.hounslow.sch.uk/6thform>

We would urge all Year 11 students and parents to attend.

YEAR 10/11 POST-16 PATHWAYS TALK

On Tuesday 10th October all students in Years 10 and 11 will attend a talk about post-16 pathways delivered by a local college. The aim of the talk is to support students in developing their knowledge and understanding of all available routes post-16, including apprenticeships and both academic and vocational qualifications (such as BTEC and T Levels). Promoting all pathways enables young people to make informed and more confident decisions.

YEAR 11 WALKING/TALKING MOCKS

In preparation for their formal assessments that will take place this year - students in Year 11 (and Year 10) will be taking part in 'walking talking mocks' in some of their subjects.

Walking talking mocks are a strategy that has gained popularity in schools in recent years. The idea behind them is that students perform the entire exam experience, including sitting in the exam hall in rows. Instead of working silently through the paper, teachers lead the class through it. Together they underline command words and the teacher explains how to identify what the question is asking and provides advice on exam technique.

Alongside more traditional revision techniques such as performing practice questions and making mind maps or revision cards, walking talking mocks take a deep dive into exam technique. They help learners to understand how to approach answering exam questions and support them to interpret the questions. This allows them to ensure that they are best able to showcase all the knowledge that they have understood from their content based revision.

WOW FESTIVAL LAUNCH

We are hoping to secure our bid for taking 6 students to an event on the London Eye to celebrate International Day of the Girl, on Wednesday 11th October. This year's event is particularly exciting because not only will it include their amazing Speed Mentoring on The London Eye, but will also be the launch of the first WOW Girls Festival.

The students, selected from year 13, will attend the Inspirational Speed Mentoring, where students meet brilliant women with different backgrounds, industries and careers. The day will also include a presentation from a keynote speaker and other activities.

YEAR 12 DEAR DAY

On Friday 29th September, Year 12 have a 'DEAR' (Drop Everything and Read) Day. This day is in line with our schools' vision to encourage reading amongst our young people and to continue developing their literacy skills. Year 12 are off site on this day, so they can use the time at home to begin reading a book of their choice, which they then have three weeks to complete and write a book review on, which is shared in tutor time and via Year 12 assemblies.

YEAR 7 'SHREK THE MUSICAL' TRIP

On Thursday 28th September, all Year 7 students will have the opportunity to see a theatre production of Shrek the Musical at Wimbledon Theatre. ScoPay is now open to book your daughter's space.

WHOLE SCHOOL REVISION WEEK

The prefix 're' means again and 'vision' is to look – so when we revise, we are simply 'looking again' at prior learning, not trying to pass a test or exam. We are just enjoying the process of learning as information begins to enter long-term memory. Each term, we will be holding a whole school revision week where students from Year 7 through to Year 13 will be introduced to a range of effective revision strategies with the aim of creating a school culture where students feel confident in how to revise and so avoiding anxiety in the run up to formal assessment points.

Whole school revision weeks 2023/24:

1. Week beginning 16th October
2. Week beginning 5th February
3. Week beginning 22nd April

YEAR 11 HISTORY DROP DOWN DAY

To help prepare Year 11 History students for their PPEs they will have a drop down day. We will revisit knowledge from previous topics studied and go over exam technique so that they feel confident answering exam questions.

YEAR 12 AND YEAR 13 ELEVATE SESSIONS

On Monday 9th October, we have invited in Elevate Education to deliver their 'Time Management' workshop to the whole of Year 12, as part of our commitment to help them with their transition to KS5 learning.

This workshop will cover the following;

- Working smart by completing high value work
- Developing routines to balance study and lifestyle
- Utilising study groups to leverage time
- Techniques for overcoming procrastination

On Wednesday 18th October, Elevate Education will return to deliver their 'Ace your Exams' workshop to the whole of Year 13, as part of our commitment to help them with their preparation for their formal assessment week in November.

This workshop will cover the following;

- Highest value exam preparation tasks
- Fixing mistakes to ensure constant improvement
- Time allocation during exam preparation
- Techniques for managing stress & time pressure in exams

WEAR IT PINK DAY

On Friday 20th October, we have our annual charity event 'Wear it Pink Day', which is in aid of Cancer Research. It is a mufti day, where our staff and students are invited to school wearing their own clothes. As the theme of the day is to 'Wear it Pink', the more 'pink' you wear, the better!

Despite being a mufti day, lessons will continue as normal and all equipment including PE kit, if you have a PE lesson on that day, is expected. The contribution for the day will be £1 and this will need to be paid online via SCOPAY by Wednesday 18th October. The wearing of mufti is **optional** and if you choose **not** to contribute £1, you will be expected to wear full school uniform.

IMPORTANT DATES IN AUTUMN TERM 1

- Thursday 7th September: CATS tests and Literacy Workshops
- Wednesday 13th September: KS5 Subject talks to Year 11
- Tuesday 19th September: SYWBA (So You Want to be a...) Careers Talk
- Tuesday 20th September: Year 7 Photographs
- Thursday 21st September: Welcome to Year 11 Parent Event
- Thursday 21st September: Year 7 Meet the Tutors Event
- Thursday 28th September: Year 7 Shrek the Musical Trip
- Friday 29th September: 6th Former for a Day
- Friday 29th September: Year 12 DEAR Day
- Month of October: Black History Month
- Thursday 5th October: Year 6 Open Open Evening
- Friday 6th October: INSET Day
- Friday 6th October: 6th Form Knitting & Stitching Show
- Monday 9th October: Year 12 Elevate Sessions
- Tuesday 10th October: Year 10/11 Post-16 pathways Talk
- Wednesday 11th October: Year 11 Walking/Talking Mocks
- Wednesday 11th October: WOW Festival Launch
- Thursday 12th October: 6th Form Open Evening
- Week beginning 16th October: Whole School Revision Week
- Tuesday 17th October: Year 11 History Drop Down Day
- Wednesday 18th October: Year 13 Elevate Sessions
- Friday 20th October: Wear It Pink Day

FOLLOW US

Never miss a moment, follow us on all our social media platforms.



@BRENTFORDSCHOOLGIRLS



@BRENTFORDSCHOOL



@BRENTFORDSCHOOL



@BSFGSIXTHFORM

BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
BRENTFORD 6 FORM

YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING
THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER 6PM-8.30PM

YEAR 6 OPEN MORNINGS
20TH & 27TH SEPTEMBER AND 11TH OCTOBER 9.30AM-11AM

VISIT OUR SCHOOL!

BOOK NOW!

WWW.BRENTFORD.HOUNSLOW.SCH.UK

6th FORM

VISIT OUR SCHOOL!

BOOK NOW!
THURSDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2023 5PM-7PM

OPEN EVENING

WWW.BRENTFORD.HOUNSLOW.SCH.UK/6THFORM