

BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS Brentford & Form

VISION | CREATIVITY | EXCELLENCE

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12th December 2023

YAG/mm

Dear Year 13 Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of this calendar year and the end of a full term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the progress and achievements of our Year 13 students. The autumn term is always very busy and this year has been no exception. This half term has been filled with challenges, growth, moments of impressive achievement and resilience.

As a whole school community, we have continued our focus on defining our taught behaviour curriculum, where the celebration of positive behaviours and efforts have been a priority. This extra focus has meant we have made sure our Year 13 students are reminded how proud we are of their accomplishments, whether it is a piece of work during their lessons, a stamp on their attendance card or a shout out in assembly. We have also been proud of the Year 13 Student Leadership team in their team efforts to raise money for their end of year Prom, for which they have successfully run a daily tuckshop to all year groups, which will continue next term. They have also done a great job with Christmas Candy Bag sales and the organisation of the Christmas Entertainment show, taking place next week. The celebration of these positive behaviours will continue throughout the year as we build our school culture that promotes and celebrates positive behaviours.

Attendance and Punctuality (Reflective):

It is expected that our students will strive for 100% attendance; this includes attending assembly, tutor time and scheduled study sessions. To support some students get back on track we have put in place a series of bespoke interventions. We continue to emphasise the importance of attendance for our 6th form students and put in place support where necessary as we recognise that future employers and higher education institutions will ask for attendance and punctuality records when requesting a pupil reference. As always, your support in this is greatly appreciated. Where students are absent parents/carers should call the school and leave a message on the school answer phone before 8.00am or send an email to our attendance officer, Ms Granger, at cgranger@brentford.hounslow.sch.uk

Post-18 pathways/academic progress (Ambitious):

Throughout the term, Year 13 have put tremendous efforts into their studies, supported one another, and achieved personal and academic milestones. Our Year 13 showed a real commitment to their studies during their November assessments, which we hope you will see reflected in the DP1 Interim Reports, which you will receive at the end of the week. It has been fantastic to see so many students make considered and aspirational applications to university or education based training placements. We know that as offers start to be received, this serves as an additional source of inspiration to students as they begin to envisage the future pathways that are opened by their hard work. To further assist this, our dedicated team of Year 13 tutors, our careers advisor and myself are working on getting all completed university application forms sent off before we break up on 20th December.

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





















Personal Development/Enrichment (Flexible):

During our student voice activities this half term, it was lovely to hear how much Year 13 appreciate the enrichment activities that have been put in place, providing them with time to refocus and apply themselves to their studies with a clearer mind-set. The Year 13 KS5 PHSEE lessons, delivered via the tutor programme, have been received well; the students have been completing a module on *Media Literacy and Digital Resilience*. Next half term they will be moving on to *Managing Risk and Personal Safety*.

Upcoming Events next half term:

- Sixth Form Parents Evening: We look forward to seeing you all during this in-person Parents Evening on Thursday 11th January 5.30pm-8.00pm.
- **BTEC Public Exams:** Both Year 12 and 13 students will be sitting exams for Health & Social Care and/or Applied Human Biology.
- **Completion of UCAS applications**: We expect any outstanding forms to be sent off by 15th January 2024, which requires students to complete their forms and press pay/send by Wednesday 10th January, so tutors have ample time to make final checks and upload references.
- **Preparation for their Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs):** Year 13 will be sitting their PPEs from Monday 19th February Friday 1st March. An exam timetable will be sent to you so that you are aware of the exams they will be sitting each day.
- Enrichment: All students will continue to attend an activity once a week. The activities include football, badminton, Art classes, self-defence, origami, basketball, Diversity Club, Amnesty International Club, Chess club, cookery class, Dance Club, Puzzle Club, Yoga and Enterprise Club. All activities take place at either lunchtime, period 5 (1.30-2.20pm) or after school (3.10-4.10pm).

As your child prepares for the challenges and personal accomplishments that await their return, I encourage them to take a moment to reflect and recognise their achievements to date.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and I look forward to a successful new term for our Year 13 students. Finally, as we enter the festive season, I want to extend my warmest wishes to you and all your family.

Yours faithfully,

Ms G Agnihotri Head of Sixth Form