

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 Parent/Carer,

It has been a very busy start to 2024, with students being involved in various trips and visits, the school play rehearsals in full flow and a number of students sitting pre prep examinations (mocks) as they prepare for their formal examinations later on in the year. Since the start of term I have spent a little less time in school than usual, as just before Christmas, I spent a spell of time in hospital due to a cardiac condition which came on quite suddenly. Fortunately, I am well on the mend and hope to be back full time in school after the half term. I have missed seeing the girls and staff hugely and when in school I have tried my best to get around and to see what is happening in classrooms and chat to the students. I am very much looking forward to next half term when I can resume my full duties. There is nothing like chatting to the girls and listening to them talk about their learning, and of course having them tell you what they would do if they were running the school!!!!!!

Next half term is again full of activity in and outside of the classroom. Please do read the bulletin carefully so that you don't miss anything. Thank you to all of the staff this half term for their hard work too, and particularly to my leadership team who have supported me during my time away from school.

Wishing you a wonderful half term break.

Best wishes,

Ms Leenders

Executive Headteacher

Meendere

YEAR 11 & YEAR 13 PPES

We have planned PPE exams for Year 11 and Year 13 for the fortnight beginning 19th February. This is the last opportunity students will have to attempt exam papers in conditions that replicate the real exam.

It is really important that the students are prepared for the PPEs, get to each exam on time and try their best to enable teachers to best advise on next steps to achieve their full potential in the summer.

Good luck to all students!

YEAR 12 RE DAY

On Wednesday 21st February, Year 12 students will be involved in the statutory RE day. The drop down day will offer students the chance to explore societal issues including race and gender discrimination as well as allowing students the opportunity to discuss identity and prejudice in society.

We are fortunate to have representatives from the charity organisation Southall Black Sisters to run a workshop with our students and will have additional external speakers coming in to provide strategies on recognising and dealing with mental health.

YEAR 8 HPV

The Year 8 HPV and MMR immunisations are taking place on Thursday 27th & Friday 28th February. Should you want your daughter to receive these vital immunisations it is essential you complete the online consent form that has been emailed to you. The completed form(s) are sent directly to the immunisation team by following the instructions/link on the form. Uncompleted forms that are sent to school will not be accepted and your daughter will not receive the immunisations.

KS4/KS5 DRAMA TRIP (MFTAMORPHOSIS)

On 29th February a group of GCSE and A Level drama students will be lucky enough to see a performance of 'Metamorphosis' by Frantic Assembly at Hammersmith Lyric Theatre.

"We have studied Frantic Assembly in drama- so I can't wait to see their work in real life!"

WARNER BROS STUDIO TRIP

On the 29th of February the Year 9 students who signed up for the extra curricular GCSE in Film Studies are benefitting from a day trip to Warner Bros. Studio Tour - The Making of Harry Potter. We have taken students on this trip many times over the years and each time we find something new



NATIONAL SECONDARY OFFER DAY

We are very excited to find out who will be joining us in September as our new Year 7 cohort. The students and teachers of the school will plan to welcome all new students throughout the term and into the summer.

As usual, we will be providing a full transition programme for all students who will be joining us in September.

YEAR 8 FORMAL ASSESSMENTS

From the week beginning 4th March students will be sitting formal assessments in each of their subjects. These will be conducted in class in controlled conditions. These assessments are designed to enable subject teachers to identify any gaps in knowledge or misconceptions that may exist, allowing them to be re-visited where necessary so that students can progressively know more and remember more over time.

To support students in effectively revising for these assessments, teachers in all subjects will be showcasing a range of research informed revision techniques to students during our whole school revision week, which is taking place from the 5th February.

Following the completion of their formal assessments students will be given designated time to reflect upon their work - making necessary revisions or re-drafts so that they have a confident understanding of how to make sustained progress moving forward.

HOUSE CAPTAIN APPLICATIONS OPEN

Information for those students in Year 9and 10 who are interested in becoming House Captains next academic year will be shared on Monday 4th March. We are looking to recruit a strong team of student leaders to work with the staff House Leaders. Information will be shared in tutor time that week.

SYWTBA CAREERS TALK

Our next career talk on 5th March (8:30am) will be delivered by Gina Gradley. Gina, who is based at Heathrow airport, is the regional marketing manager at Amadeus. Over the last 30 years, Amadeus has 'progressively diversified its activities beyond its core business of air distribution to become one of the world's largest technology providers in the travel and tourism industry'.

WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day will be taking place on Thursday 7th March! We would like to invite all Year 7 and 8 students to come dressed up as their favourite book character to promote reading for pleasure. Various activities and quizzes will be taking place at lunchtime.

A house competition for the best dressed will take place on the astro at lunch time. It would be great to see as many students and staff as possible taking part.

START OF SCIENCE WEEK

On Monday 17th March, we will begin our week long set of activities to celebrate British Science Week. During the week we acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of current and past scientists from all backgrounds. Students and staff can also look forward to a range of hands-on activities that extends their learning beyond the classroom and builds their interests and appreciation for science, and its contribution to the world as we know it.

YEAR 11 BFI STUDY TRIP

Each year the film studies department runs a trip to the British Film Institute on the Southbank in Central London.

It is always a valuable day which gives the students a chance to watch and discuss clips from the films they have studied with other students from across the country. They will get clear insight into their coming exams and be offered excellent advice on improving their grades.

This year, we are taking Year 11 students on Tuesday the 12th of March.



Revision study day for KS4 Film Studies

This in-person revision event aims to clarify complex ideas and consolidate knowledge in preparation for exams - 10:30am to 3pm, 12 March 2024, BFI Southbank.

YEAR 8 OPTIONS EVENING (6PM - 8PM)

On Thursday 14th March we are excited to invite Year 8 students and parents to their Options Evening. During this time students will have the opportunity to meet with the subject teams of all the qualifications that are offered at KS4 - building an understanding of the content that is covered, the assessment requirements and the career pathways that each subject may support moving forward.

Using this information students will be equipped to begin the process of making informed choices regarding their GCSE options choices.

FIT TASK/REFLECTION WEEK BEGINS

During week beginning 18th March, following the completion of their formal assessments or specified pieces of class work, students will be given designated time to reflect upon their work - making necessary revisions or redrafts so that they have a confident understanding of how to make sustained progress moving forward.

This is designed to build a growth mindset in students - showcasing that they can always make improvements to their work - making step by step progress to their aspirational targets.

YEAR 6 INTO 7 WELCOME EVENING (5.30PM-6.30PM)

As part of the transition programme, we are delighted to welcome in the parents and students of those offered places to attend Brentford School for Girls in September 2024.

The event allows us to welcome the new Year 7s to the Brentford community and, as usual, we will be asking selected existing students for their support in the evening.

RELATIONSHIP & SEX EDUCATION (RSE) PARENT CONSULTANCY MEETINGS

After our successful parent consultation meeting in the Autumn term, we are delighted to invite parents of 6th Form students to a meeting on Friday 23rd February and parents of Year 7 students on Monday 26th February from 11.10am to 12.50pm.

In the meetings we will be discussing how RSE is taught in the school, show you resources that are used and answer any of your questions.

We look forward to seeing you there!

YEAR 12 & 13 BFI STUDY TRIP

The Film Studies department is running a trip to the British Film Institute on the Southbank in Central London.

It is always a valuable day watching and analysing clips from the films they have studied and it gives the students a clear insight into the A level texts, offering excellent advice on how to improve their chances of exam success. This year, we are taking 10 Year 12 and 13 students on Wednesday the 20th of March.



Revision study day for KS5 Film Studies

Join us for a revision study day to embed core ideas needed in exams - 110:30am to 3pm, 20 March 2024, BFI Southbank.

YEAR 12 ENGLISH DUCHESS OF MALFI TRIP

The Year 12 and 13 English Literature classes will have the opportunity to watch a performance of 'The Duchess of Malfi' at the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse. As we study this play as part of the A Level syllabus, the performance will be an excellent way to bring the text to life and support our understanding and appreciation of Webster's revenge tragedy.



YEAR 13 ELEVATE (9.15AM-10.15AM)

On Thursday 21st March, Elevate Education will return to deliver their 'Finishing Line' workshop to the whole of Year 13, as part of our commitment to help them with their preparation for their summer exams.

This workshop will cover the following:

- Overcoming weaknesses in the lead up to exams
- The role of exam study groups
- Stress management techniques and wellbeing
- Study routines for study leave and holidays

DUKE OF EDINBURGH PRACTICE WALK (10AM-2PM)

Our 14 Year 9 students will embark on their first practice expedition walk of the year for their bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award.

They will be navigating around Richmond Park in groups testing their skills with maps and compasses.

YEAR 10 HISTORY NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM TRIP

Year 10 will visit the National Maritime Museum where they will take part in an enquiry based session on the Spanish Armada. This is linked to their Elizabethan England GCSE topic.

YEAR 8 GLOBE TRIP - ROMEO & JULIET

Year 8 students will be going to The Globe Theatre on 27th March for a matinee performance of 'Romeo and Juliet'. They have studied the text at the start of Year 8, so the performance will help them to fully appreciate why this play has become such a classic tale of star-crossed love and tragedy. The tickets are free, as part of the Deutsche Bank Playing Shakespeare series. It will also be a fabulous opportunity for the students to see a performance at the iconic The Globe Theatre and experience a walk along Southbank to get to the venue.



YEAR 12 HISTORY TRIP TO HAMPTON COURT

Year 12 will experience university style learning in an historic place which is linked to their A level History Tudor scheme of work. By exploring Hampton Court Palace Y12 will envision the wealth and lifestyle of the historical figures they are studying, supporting wider engagement with their A level course.

IMPORTANT DATES IN SPRING TERM 2

Monday 19th February: Year 11 & Year 13 PPEs

Wednesday 21st February: Year 12 RE Day
 Tuesday 27th February: Year 8 HPV

Thursday 29th February: KS4/KS5 Drama Trip (Metamorphosis)

Thursday 29th February: Warner Bros Studio Trip
 Friday 1st March: National Secondary Offer Day
 Monday 4th March: Year 8 Formal Assessments
 Monday 4th March: House Captain Applications Open
 Monday 4th March: National Careers Week Begins

Tuesday 5th March: SYWTBA Careers Talk
 Thursday 7th March: World Book Day
 Monday 11th March: Start of Science Week

Monday 11th March: Start of Science Week
Tuesday 12th March: Year 11 BFI Study Trip
Thursday 14th March: Year 8 Options Evening

Monday 18th March: FIT Task/Reflection Week Begins

Tuesday 19th March: Year 6 into 7 Welcome Evening (5.30pm-6.30pm)

Wednesday 20th March: Year 13 BFI Study Trip

Wednesday 20th March: Year 12 English Duchess of Malfi Trip
 Thursday 21st March: Year 13 Elevate (9.15am-10.15am)
 Thursday 21st March: Year 12 History Trip to Hampton Court

• Sunday 24th March: DofE Practice Walk (10am-2pm)

Tuesday 26th March: Year 10 History National Maritime Museum Trip

Wednesday 27th March: Year 8 Globe Trip - Romeo & Juliet

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