



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's been a very busy half term with Year 11 and Year 13 sitting mock examinations over the last few weeks. Teachers have been busy marking exam papers and identifying interventions which will support the girls as they move towards their final exams next term. On behalf of the girls, I would like to thank the staff for the additional time they all put into ensuring the girls achieve well. Even at half term, when they should have been on holiday, many were in school running interventions!

Over the last half term we have had a real focus on 'pupil attendance'. We have always prided ourselves on the highest levels of attendance and, before COVID, we were well above national average. However, more recently the attendance of the students has worsened. We know sometimes this can't be helped but please support us in not taking holidays in term time, or allowing your daughter to stay home when she could be in school! If she is struggling, tell us, we can help!

As we move into the summer term, there is so much going on across the school. You can keep in touch by checking our website or following us on one of our social media platforms i.e Instagram. The links are at the back of this "Bulletin".

Looking forward to working with you next term.

Best regards,

Ms Leenders
Executive Headteacher

YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK

There are two trips coming up to help students prepare for their Paper 3 exam where students will be expected to evaluate two pieces of fieldwork they completed. On Tuesday 16th April, all Year 10 geographers will go to Stratford to assess the impact of the Olympics regeneration. We will then go to the River Wye on either the 11th June (10B/Gg1 and 10A/Gg2) or 12th June (10A/Gg1). Letters will be sent to parents in the week beginning 26/2/24.

YEAR 8 OPTIONS ASSEMBLIES BEGIN

Building on from the options evening held on the 14th March, students in Year 8 will take part in a series of assemblies led by heads of department and/or lead teachers in each subject from Tuesday 16th April until Friday 26th April. The aim of each assembly is to outline the key content that will be covered, the form of assessment used and the opportunities for deeper learning in each of the respective KS4 qualifications.

YEAR 10 - WELCOME TO YEAR 11 PARENT EVENT (6PM-7PM)

Year 10 parents and students are invited to attend an information evening to discuss the year ahead. The event takes place on Thursday 18th April between 6-7pm. This is a great opportunity for parents to receive information about what their daughter will experience in Year 11 and embrace the community spirit we have at Brentford School for Girls between staff, students and parents.

SWAN LAKE TRIP (10AM-4:40PM)

40 students will have the opportunity to attend a special performance of Swan Lake at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

The performance is led by the team at the ROH to engage students with a variety of theatre forms including ballet- which is not often a form of theatre students have access to.

YEAR 11 MFL SPEAKING EXAMS

Year 11 French and German students start the GCSE exams season with the MFL Speaking Exams which will take place on Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th April. They will have the opportunity to attend a speaking workshop during the Easter break in order to be fully prepared for the day.

HOUSE CAPTAIN INTERVIEWS

Information for those pupils in Year 9/10 who are interested in becoming House Captains next academic year was shared on Monday 4th March. We are looking to recruit a strong team of student leaders to work with the staff House Leaders. The House team look forward to reading the applications.

YEAR 13 PHOTOGRAPHY EXAM

All Year 13 Photography students will be completing the photography examination on the 18th, 19th and 22nd April completing a total of 15 hours of work. Students will need to be prepared to create a meaningful and purposeful response to their exam project.

Students are reminded they will not be allowed to take photos or use the internet during this examination period and, once the examination has started, students will not be able to refine or add to their sketchbooks.

This examination is worth 40% off their qualification and is a vital part of their studies.

YEAR 7 & 8 MATHS CHALLENGE

UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge

Students in the top two sets in Year 7 and 8 every year are entered for the United Kingdom Junior Mathematics Challenge.

The 60 minute challenge paper takes place at school in April. Students have to work through 25 multiple choice problem solving questions without a calculator.

The problems are not the usual questions seen in school mathematics lessons. They challenge the students to use their mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency to think through the solutions. Students can access past papers and practice for the challenge using this link on the official UKMT website.

<https://ukmt.org.uk/junior-challenges/junior-mathematical-challenge>

The challenge is sent off to be marked and results are announced about two months later with the highest achievers gaining bronze, silver or gold certificates.

There is also recognition for the Best student in a year group and Best in School. The achievements are recognised in school assemblies with prizes. Best Wishes to all those that take part.

FILM STUDIES SCREENING EVENING

This year we will be rolling out the red carpet for our Year 13 Film Studies students on the 25th April 2024 at 6pm in the theatre. There will be a short film programme with some awards and a chance to meet the Year 13 filmmakers, all of whom are planning to move onto film and television course next year at Universities or Film Schools. Invites are set out to friends and family, staff and some film industry people. Though it is an invite only event we will be making tickets available for any GCSE students particularly those in Year 11 who are interested in the A level film course or career paths into the media industries.

YEAR 8 OPTIONS TASTER SESSIONS

Students will have the opportunity to partake in a series of taster lessons in each of the subjects that are newly offered at KS4 - such as Business Studies and Sociology - so that they can experience what it is like to be in a typical lesson and provide further opportunity for them to ask questions of the relevant subject teachers. These lessons will be taking place during the week beginning 29th April.

We are confident that this will support students in making informed choices and ensure they are on the correct pathway for the next stage in their academic career.

YEAR 9 PARENT EVENT (6PM-7PM)

Year 9 parents' information evening takes place on Thursday 2nd May. The evening offers all parents/ carers the opportunity to hear key information and advice around your daughter's GCSE courses, as well as strategies for revision in preparation for their English Literature GCSE taking place in Year 10.

YEAR 6 INTO 7 INTERVIEWS

On Wednesday 8th May, the school will welcome students and parents who are joining our community in September to have their interview.

Each family will have a face to face meeting with a member of staff so that we can find out more information about those who are joining us and provide the opportunity for them to ask any questions about the school. All of this is in aid of better supporting the new students when they start with us in September.

START OF PUBLIC EXAMS

Throughout May and June, the Year 11 and Year 13 students will be taking their public exams for their GCSE, BTEC or A Level courses. The students have been fully supported in the lead up to the exams and this will continue throughout the exam season.

We wish all our students the best of luck in these important exams.

YEAR 10 ENGLISH LITERATURE EXAM

Year 10 will be sitting their final English Literature GCSE examinations on 13th May (Paper 1: 'Macbeth' and 'A Christmas Carol') and 20th May (Paper 2: 'An Inspector Calls', the Love and Relationship Poetry Anthology and Unseen Poetry). Learning how to revise effectively and handling the pressure of sitting examinations will help prepare them for their GCSE examinations in all subjects in Year 11.

We wish them the best of luck in their exams and look forward to celebrating the results of all their hard work with them in August.

YEAR 7 FORMAL ASSESSMENTS

From the week beginning 20th May, 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 revisited 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 second school revision week which is taking place from the 22nd April.

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.

