



BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
BRENTFORD 6th FORM

HIGHLIGHTS

M A G A Z I N E

**INSPIRATION
FOR THE MODERN
YOUNG STUDENT**

Spring Term 2024
HIGHLIGHTS

EDUCATION

COMMUNITY

INSPIRATION

SPRING 2024 HIGHLIGHTS MAGAZINE

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MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff & Students

It is hard to believe that we are now 2/3 through the school year and it has been another busy term.

The highlight of this term for me is always the amazing school production. We are lucky to have so many talented students to entertain us and the amazing staff team who work tirelessly to arrange the shows, either behind the scenes or front of stage. If you saw Little Mermaid then I know you will agree that it was one of the best productions of recent years, and if you didn't you missed out!

This term I was lucky enough to accompany Miss Marsh to the Music & Drama Education awards where she was nominated for Most Inspirational Drama Teacher. She didn't win but the nomination was a recognition of her work with the girls and her desire to give them all the best opportunities during their time at Brentford.

We have welcomed the Year 6 students who are joining us in September along with their parents to meet some of the key players at school and the event was a resounding success. We look forward to seeing all of them again as they become part of the community at the school.

The Year 8 students and their parents have started the process of choosing their options for their GCSEs – this is always a big decision but the staff team are there to support the girls every step of the way.

Life at Brentford is not just about what happens in the classroom, there are always lots of extra-curricular activities for the girls to get involved in, often involving raising money for a charity or good cause. Most recently the student leadership team arranged an inter-house football match, and raised a wonderful £176.78 for Doctors without Borders and Arizo's Well - congratulations to everyone who took part.

This term has also seen Science Week, a Year 8 Careers Day and the Year 7s have learnt how to bake bread. The Year 9s have taken part in their first practice walk around Richmond Park for their Duke of Edinburgh award.

The sports teams have been showcasing their talents but not least than the Year 7 Netball team who won their first match against Niksham 13 – 2. What a fantastic result!!

As ever, there is too much going on at school to mention everything but my last mention must go to the Year 11 and Year 13 students as they prepare for their exams – good luck to you all! I know you will all do brilliantly and I look forward to hearing all about your successes.

I will close by wishing all the students, staff and members of the wider school community a peaceful and enjoyable Easter break.

Best wishes

Terri George
Chair of Governors

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parent/ Carers

We have come to the end of another busy spring term and I have to keep asking myself where has this term gone!!!!

You will see again from this term's highlights that there has been much activity across the school, from sports fixtures, careers events, parents evenings to the whole school production... no stone has been left unturned!!!

We have also welcomed our new year 7 students who will join us in September. They are all so excited to start and it was fantastic to meet the new families who have already been extremely complimentary about the school and our girls!

Whilst teaching is certainly no easy job and the teachers do all work incredibly hard, it is always the students who keep us going. Their positivity, drive and ambition do make all of the difference.

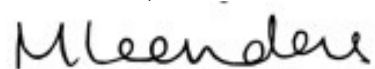
Whilst reviewing this edition of the highlights magazine, I want to thank our staff once again for all of their contribution to the school. It is also the girls who deserve a special thank you as well: you are an absolute delight to work with and certainly make it all the easier for staff to teach you!!

As we move into the Easter holidays I know that many of you will also be celebrating Eid. Enjoy the celebrations.

Wishing you all a peaceful and restful time at home

Enjoy your holiday

Best wishes,



Marais Leenders
Executive Headteacher



BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

FACILITIES FOR HIRE

At Brentford School for Girls, we are keen to encourage the use of our facilities by both community groups and by local businesses. Please browse the information we have made available to you on our website. We have a wide range of facilities available for hire, from high quality sporting facilities to state of the art technology and performing art spaces.









SCHOOL REFURBISHMENT UPDATES



'Our lovely new reception/ admin office is a modern sleek environment.
Being at the front of the school means we are more visible and easily able to welcome visitors.
Having a larger space means we have improved our productivity- we can share and access more easily.
We have better resources and infrastructure.' - Charnjit



'Our new window to the world! Spacious, welcoming and extremely comfortable. We love it! Thank you Jacky!' - Maggie

'The children and staff have felt nothing short of amazed about how Jacky can transform 'spaces' into places we love to be!' Marais Leenders, BSfG Executive Head Teacher

'First impressions count, particularly in a busy school visited by thousands of visitors every year.

So, when asked to re-envision the new Reception and offices at Brentford School for Girls, I knew I had my work cut out. Entering a school reception, the visitor is looking for reassurance: Is the environment warm and welcoming? Does it reflect a professional, secure environment where I'm happy to entrust my daughter? And, importantly, am I in the right place?

As you may know, the school reception was originally located in the middle of the school site. We chose to relocate the new office to the front of the building, immediately behind the entrance gate so that visitors can easily find their way. Fitted with security cameras and with the reception desk located in the line of sight of the entrance gate, this has added an extra level of security to the building. Inside Reception, you're always greeted with a warm welcome by Maggie and Wingyee, the school receptionists and, now that we have an open plan office, the admin team enjoy a much improved working environment.

For anyone familiar with the old design & technology department, you may recognise that the new reception is in fact an old DT room - see photos! It's amazing what new walls and a bit of imagination can achieve!

When it came to design, I wanted to keep the scheme neutral, so that it had an air of tranquility (despite the team often being rushed off their feet!). We commissioned a bespoke, dual level oak reception desk that featuring an updated sign in system and induction loop hearing aid and then I chose a warm terracotta colour scheme.

Always keen to be sustainable, the furniture removed from the DT room was either given to another department or donated to Hounslow Arts group, for their use.'

Jacqueline Douglas, Interior Designer



About Jacqueline Douglas - the Interior Designer

Jacqueline Douglas is a designer, based in West London. Graduating from Central Saint Martins College of Art with a First Class Degree, Jacqueline began her career as a textile designer, creating designs for the fashion and Interiors industry. Her work now revolves around interior design and the commission of her paintings and bespoke wall hangings.

*<https://www.instagram.com/jacquelinedouglasdesign>
<https://www.jacquelinedouglasdesign.com>*



THE BRILLIANT CLUB



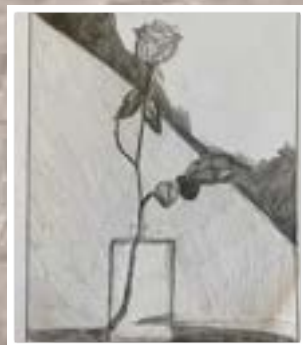
The Brilliant Club sessions : the scholars programme empowers secondary school students to dive into higher education, nurturing vital skills for their academic journey. #BrilliantClub #FutureLeaders



THE BRILLIANT CLUB



YEAR 7 & YEAR 8 STUDENT ARTWORK



YEAR 9 & YEAR 10 STUDENT ARTWORK



YEAR 9 & YEAR 12 STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHY ARTWORK



YEAR 10 & YEAR 12 STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHY ARTWORK



CAREER & HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR



On Tuesday the 16th of January, we had the pleasure of hosting 20 prestigious universities, colleges, and influential employers for our much-anticipated annual Careers and Higher Education fair. Students from Years 10 through to 13 had the exclusive opportunity to engage with the fair during the morning's lessons, soaking up invaluable advice and guidance for their future academic and professional endeavors.

The bustling fair also opened its doors to the eager students from the lower year groups during their lunch break, allowing them a taste of the exciting possibilities that lay ahead in their educational journeys.

This year's fair offered up a treasure trove of opportunities, where students could converse one-on-one with university representatives and gain a deeper understanding of the various degree programs on offer. They could dissect the entry requirements and discover the many facets that make up the vibrant university life, including accommodation particulars, insights into navigating student loans, and the support services that ensure a smooth and supported educational experience.



Spring Issue | March 2024

CAREER & HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR



LEARN WITH THE LORDS

On Friday 19th January, our academic community was abuzz with excited anticipation. It was indeed our great honor to welcome the esteemed Baroness Hamwee to our school grounds. Her presence marked a special day in our institution's calendar, as she participated in the exceptional 'Learn with the Lords' program.

With an air of wisdom and insight only garnered through a profound experience in legislative processes, Baroness Hamwee graced our sixth form students with an informative talk. The session illuminated the intricate workings of governance and engaged our students with the practices that shape our society. This visit wasn't just an encounter; it was an invaluable opportunity for our learners to absorb first-hand knowledge from the corridors of power.

The Baroness engaged with our eager young minds, sparking a light of curiosity and debate that is sure to resonate within them for years to come. Providing a unique vantage point into the democratic tapestry of our political landscape, her talk left a lasting educational footprint on our future leaders.

We cherish such opportunities to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world experience, and Baroness Hamwee's visit will undoubtedly remain etched in the collective memory of our school as an inspiring educational event.



6TH FORM INTERVIEWS

On Friday 26th January, we conducted comprehensive interviews with a vibrant cohort of students for our esteemed sixth form program. Each candidate, radiating potential and ambition, engaged in thought-provoking dialogue with our academic panel, showcasing their unique capabilities and their eagerness to advance their educational journeys with us.



HOUSE COMPTETION PROJECT

During the Christmas holidays, the Year 7 students were assigned a project to create castles, which directly related to their learning in the Normans unit.

To engage the students further, we organized a History house competition, where participants represented their respective houses. Based on the judging criteria, winners were selected from each house, along with an overall winner.

AM – Siya

CN – Audrey

IN – Samara

RF – Muhsinah

Overall winner >>> FL Aanya (bottom right picture)

Well done!



ATHLETICS EVENT AT OSTERLY

The athletics event at Osterly was a tremendous success. Brentford School for Girls students participated enthusiastically, showcasing their talents in various activities ranging from jumping to racing to long jump.

It was truly an impressive display of skill and dedication by everyone involved.

[#athletics](#) [#winningmindset](#)



STUDENT LEADERSHIP AT BSFG

STUDENT LEADERSHIP AT BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

The purpose of Student Leadership at Brentford School for Girls is to encourage students to be involved actively in the life of the school.

Student Leadership fosters school improvement through providing empowerment to the student body. It contributes to our outstanding community ethos and is an important driver for school improvement, teaching and learning and youth development.

Leadership is an important skill because it plays a crucial role in guiding, inspiring, and influencing others to achieve common goals and objectives. Our student leadership team play a key role across the school. Our student leadership is an essential part of the education students receive here at The Brentford School for Girls.



MUSIC CREATION SESSION

We were incredibly fortunate to welcome Ben Bushell and Daniel Pratt from The University of West London's London College of Music to visit our students studying performing arts.

Dr Dan Pratt is the course leader for BMus Performance and Recording at the University of West London. Ben Bushell is the course leader for BA Music Management at the University of West London. They shared invaluable insights on the intricate process of music creation, as well as the multifaceted business aspects it entails. Our BSfG students had the privilege of absorbing this wealth of knowledge during this extraordinary session.

This session was absolutely fantastic, leaving our students inspired and brimming with enthusiasm! [#recordlabels](#) [#music](#) [#festivals](#)



LANGUAGES FOR ALL

Friday 12 January was the launch of 'Languages For All' at Brentford School for Girls where fourteen Year 11 students attended the 'Languages and Your Future' careers conference at the prestigious Royal Holloway University.

During the day, the students took part in a speed networking session, meeting and talking to a range of professionals about what their language skills helped them to achieve in the world of work. They then took part in a Spanish language taster session which they really enjoyed!

At Brentford School for Girls, the school is keen to promote that studying a foreign language is a highly desirable skill that can benefit their students in numerous ways. For one, it helps to improve their cognitive abilities and memory, as well as enhancing their problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Learning a second language can also make the girls at the school more adaptable, flexible and open-minded. It can give them a competitive edge in the job market, too, as it is a skill that is in high demand in today's globalised economy.

In conjunction with this promotion of foreign languages in their school, Brentford School for Girls is excited to announce that it will be offering A-level French from September 2024. This is great news for parents and students who recognise the value of studying this highly desirable language. Studying A-level French shows future employers that your child is a good communicator, hard-working, and adaptable. It also helps to demonstrate their commitment to learning and their ability to excel in a challenging academic environment.

The benefits of studying a second language are clear, and A-level French is a highly desirable skill that will give your child a competitive edge in the job market.



NETBALL HOUSE COMPETITION

The netball house competition showcasing the unwavering dedication of our students to lead their respective houses to victory.
[#housecompetition](#) [#netballcompetition](#)



LITTLE MERMAID JUNIOR SCHOOL PRODUCTION



Putting together a school production is no easy feat, especially when the cast consists of young students who are still learning the ropes of stage performance. However, Brentford School for Girls' production of 'Little Mermaid Junior' was a resounding success.



The Head of Arts, Kirsty Marsh, and her team worked tirelessly in putting together this production. Juggling their regular teaching duties with regular rehearsals, together with planning, coordinating and preparing for the show itself was no easy task. However, they did it all with enthusiasm, ensuring that every student involved felt supported and encouraged throughout the process.

However, it is the students themselves who were the integral part of making this production such a success. They gave it their absolute all - practising after school and on weekends - and overcome any fear they may have had about performing on stage. It was truly heartwarming to see them shine during their big moment in the spotlight. Brentford School for Girls ensure that all year groups are represented in their annual productions with Year 7s auditioning in September when they join the school alongside other students.







This production not only provided a platform for students to showcase their talents, but also fostered a sense of community and teamwork amongst everyone involved. The enthusiasm and dedication displayed by all those who participated is a true testament to the power of the arts in bringing people together.



One parent commented: "Thank you again for putting on such a wonderful show. Our girls have really enjoyed being part of such a professional and technically challenging production. I was privileged to get a little look behind the scenes, and was so impressed at all the girls' talents - on stage and off - and their collective motivation. The teaching staff are so well loved and I can see why."





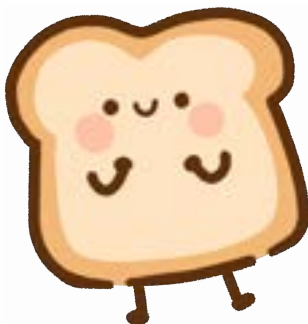
We were delighted to extend our warmest welcome to @Springwell @Ivybridge @Beavers @SmallberryGreen @theMarlborough Schools as they joined us to watch the performance day of our BSfG school production of "The Little Mermaid Junior".



FOOD TECHNOLOGY IN ACTION

One essential skill that often gets overlooked is the ability to cook. In today's fast-paced world, many kids grow up without learning the basics of cooking and end up relying on ready-made meals or takeout. This is where food technology classes at school can make a significant impact. Cooking requires planning, organization, time management, and problem-solving – all valuable skills that can be applied in various aspects of life.

Cooking also allows children to express their creativity while learning about different cultures' culinary traditions.



CODING AT BSFG



Year 5 and 6 of St Paul's CE Primary School were invited to Brentford School for Girls to experience an exciting coding session in one of their computer labs.

It was a great opportunity for the children to show off their impressive coding skills, whilst also getting a little sample of what life in Secondary school might be like.

The children really enjoyed the more complex tasks and different equipment and could explain exactly what they had to do.

'A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE STAFF AT BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS FOR HAVING US!'

JOHN HEADTEACHER
ST PAUL'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOP

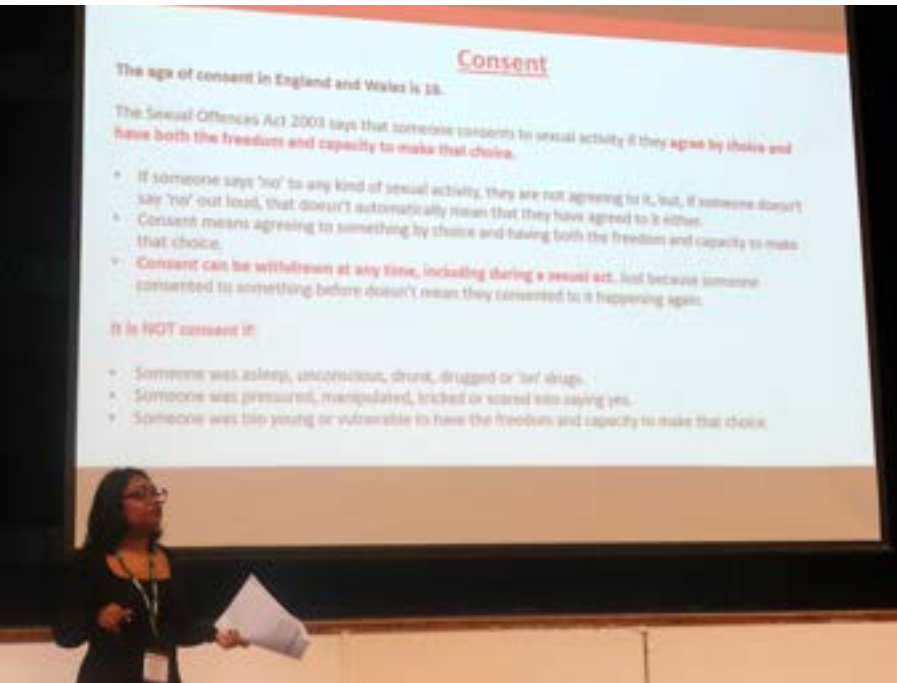


Mental health workshop part II with James took place for 6th formers to learn about their own wellbeing including making daily choices including:

1. Stress breaks
2. Sweat for 15 min
3. Sleep for 8 hours
4. Sunlight 30min
5. Socialise regularly
6. Start engaging activity
7. Salad, smoothie, seafood (Mediterranean style diet)



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS



We were joined by two speakers from the charity @SouthallBlackSisters who spoke to Year 12's about violence against women.



The workshop involved students learning about the types of abuse there are, the law that is in place in the UK around domestic abuse and consent. Students took part in discussions around this topic and activities to develop their understanding on this topic.

This session gave our students the chance to speak to people who work to protect women from becoming victims and support women who have faced situations of abuse.

It definitely left them empowered and knowledgeable in how to speak out against abuse.



MUSIC & DRAMA AWARDS 2024



Music and Drama Education Awards 2024

Ms Marsh was shortlisted to the final four after being nominated by students, parents, colleagues and local primary schools.

Congratulations Ms Marsh on this fantastic achievement!

[#MDEAWARDS](#) [#MusicandDramaEducationAwards](#)

'Ms. Marsh works tirelessly to be able to provide all students with access to drama and the skills we develop from it. She doesn't only teach drama as a subject but as a necessary part of life, communication and expression - without this I would not be where I am today, and it is her that I have to thank for this entirely.'

BSFG drama student.



NETBALL WIN!



BSFG won 13-2 for their first netball match vs Nishkam. Well done Year 7!

Netball teaches important life skills such as teamwork, communication, and leadership. Girls learn how to communicate effectively with their teammates on the court, making quick decisions and adapting strategies as needed. They also develop leadership skills by taking on roles such as captain or vice-captain, learning how to motivate and inspire their peers.



WORLD BOOK DAY



To celebrate World Book day, Year 7 and 8 students and staff were invited to dress up as their favourite book character. There was a catwalk on the astro during lunchtime showing the best world book day outfits.

#worldbookday #springhousecompetition #houseevents



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2024



This year's IWD campaign:

The campaign theme for International Women's Day 2024 was '**Inspire Inclusion**' highlighting the importance of inclusivity and diversity in all aspects of life.

When we inspire others to understand and value women's inclusion, we forge a better world.

And when women themselves are inspired to be included, there's a sense of belonging, relevance, and empowerment. Collectively, let's forge a more inclusive world for women.

Celebrating International Women's Day in secondary schools allows students to come together as a community to support each other and celebrate the achievements of women around the world.

It creates a sense of unity among students, teachers, and parents, encouraging them to work together towards creating a more inclusive and equal society. It also provides an opportunity for girls to connect with female role models who can inspire and mentor them.

[#IWD2024](#) [#InspireInclusion](#)



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2024





YOUTH WITHOUT LIMITS



YOUTH
WITHOUT
LIMITS

ENJOY
THE OUTDOORS



- Check your route and local conditions.
- Plan your adventure - know what to expect and what you can do.
- Enjoy your visit, have fun, make some amazing memories!

THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE



RESPECT
EVERYONE

- Be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking.
- Be nice, say hello, share the space.
- Follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available.



PROTECT
THE ENVIRONMENT

- Take your litter home - leave no trace of your visit.
- Do not light fires and only have BBQs where signs say you can.
- Care for nature - do not cause damage or disturbance.



For more information, visit
www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code

BSfG Year 9 students embarked on their first practice expedition walk of the year for their bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award.

They navigated around Richmond Park in groups testing their skills with maps and compasses.

Well done!

YEAR 11 FILM STUDIES



Our GCSE film studies students attended a revision study day event at the British Film Institute, London.

Throughout the session, students were able to consolidate their own learning and gain exclusive guidance and support, allowing students to benefit from revision techniques and analysis skills.

There also had the opportunity to engage in Q&A sessions to help clarify and cement ideas in preparation for the exams.





SCIENCE WEEK

During Science Week, the Year 7 students engaged in exciting activities such as creating bath bombs that fizzed and exploring fraud detection using measuring cylinders.



skills
career
inter
value
good



As part of the GCSE options selection process, all Year 8 students embarked on a day to consider their future ambitions.

In the morning, Year 8 students were engaged in various activities during the Career Day. The students were guided through a PowerPoint presentation that involved exploring different UK university options.

They began with a game of university dingbats, where they matched visual clues to university names. This was followed by a group activity where students sorted course names into real and fake categories. Afterward, the students were shown sample of University courses. The presentation continued, concluding with a video.

YEAR 8 CAREER DAY

YEAR 8 CAREER DAY

Enterprise Task:

Employers are keen for employees to have entrepreneurial skills. Therefore, the students engaged in an activity to suggest the development of a new rewards system at the school.

Students were then divided into groups of 5-6, assigned group roles and considered their plans.

After the students had decided on their ideas they worked on a presentation for the class. Materials were supplied for creating a poster that showcased their ideas and reasons for selection.

Each group member delivered a presentation discussing their role and contributions.

Speed Networking:

In the afternoon, we were delighted to welcome to the school a number of professionals from different industries to speak to the students.

Each explained their own journey to inspire the current Year 8 students.



CHARITY INTERSCHOOL FOOTBALL MATCH

The event was a joint effort by the sixth forms of consortium school who organised a staff vs staff and student vs student football tournament with Brentford School, Isleworth and Syon School and Bolder Academy. This was organised by our 6th Form Student Leadership Team in collaboration with the other schools Head Student Leadership teams.

Profits from entry and food/ drink sales (£176.78) were given to our nominated school charity Doctors Without Borders & Arizo's Well.



'CAKE FOR BREAK'

As part of our school staff wellbeing program, we organize these delightful gatherings every term to provide a social platform for everyone to come together, enjoy each other's company, and indulge in some delicious cake treats!

Our recent get-together had an Easter theme, 'cake at break,' held in the beautifully refurbished canteen. It was not only a sweet gesture but also a heartfelt 'thank you' to the dedicated canteen staff, whose hard work often keeps them from participating in many events.



YEAR 6 INTO 7 WELCOME EVENING

We were delighted to have received exceptionally positive feedback from the parents who attended our Welcome evening for Year 6 transitioning into Year 7. We invite you to explore a selection of these captivating photos and heartwarming comments.



YEAR 6 INTO 7 WELCOME EVENING PARENTS' FEEDBACK

'I know none of the other secondary schools have done anything yet and for us these visits have been really helpful. It really feels like a community and we feel welcomed, looked after and valued. We are excited for our daughter to start at Brentford School for Girls. The plan is a fabulous idea. Thank you.'

Year 6 parent

'The evening has been invaluable in sharing information about the school but also in putting our minds at rest - both child and parents!'

Year 6 parent

'Wonderful, informative, welcoming. Thank you! We are looking forward very much to joining the Brentford School for Girls community.'

Year 6 parent

'Very informative! Thank you so much. Well done!'

Year 6 parent

'I found Year 6 into 7 evening informative and interesting on how my daughter's journey would look like. My daughter can't wait to be a Year 7 at Brentford School for Girls.'

Year 6 parent

FOLLOW US



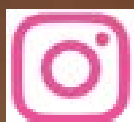
NEVER MISS A MOMENT, FOLLOW US ON ALL OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS:



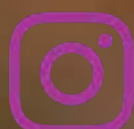
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