

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'S UPDATE

Dear Parent/Carer,

I do hope that you have all had a fantastic summer and I am delighted to welcome you all to the new academic year. A very warm welcome to our new parents of year 7 pupils. This year we have taken an additional bulge class into year 7, admitting 30 more girls into the school than we normally do at the start of the school year. We have matched this with some additional staffing and pastoral care so that we are fully prepared for the increased number of pupils. We do hope that your daughters will be happy as they begin their journey here with us at Brentford school.

Once again we are delighted with the summer A' level and GCSE results. The girls have done amazingly well and on behalf of the school we would like to thank you and your parents for all of your hard work and maturity during what can be a very stressful period. There were screams of jubilation in August when students came into school to celebrate their results. Many of those who sat their A' level results were pleased to secure some excellent results and will be leaving us to go off to university. This year there were a huge increase in the number of pupils who secured places at the countries best universities (Russell group universities) including Husna Argandiwal who secured her place at 'Oxford University!'. We are looking forward to hearing all about your experiences in the future when you come back and visit us!

As well as examination results, it has been a busy summer across the school site. Our team of site staff have been busy redecorating and the builders are well on their way to laying our brand new Astro turf sports surface, which should be ready for the girls to use by the end of September. It is going to be a fantastic facility and we are all looking forward to a grand opening before the half term holidays in October. Thank you to all of the site team for their hard work across the site this summer.

As always this year our priorities are to ensure that your daughters work hard and make the progress that they deserve, but that we are also developing those skills and values within our vision of the Brentford girl. My assemblies at the start of term are all about taking opportunities and we will continue to encourage all girls to get involved across the school, either through a leadership opportunity, extra curricular activity or taking part in some volunteering or charity work. Leaving school with excellent qualifications is always important, but equally so is having those broader skills that ensure that the girls can manage the challenges of adulthood. It is our vision at Brentford to achieve both for your daughters' and our mission again this year is to do just that!

Thank you for ensuring that your daughters have all returned to school smartly dressed and well prepared for the start of the school year. I look forward to working with you all.

Best wishes,
Marais Leenders
Headteacher



TEACHING AND LEARNING AT BRENTFORD

Students do very well at Brentford School for Girls – our progress score for 2018 put us in the top 10% of all schools in the country for our GCSE results. This is only possible because of the competent teaching provided in classrooms across the school. Students behave exceptionally well at Brentford and we pride ourselves on ensuring effective behaviour for learning which means that all students in a class can make progress. As a school we have the following expectations of teachers:

1. Meet and Greet and prompt start – teachers are at their door before the bell goes for the start of the lesson. Teachers greet each student and once students enter the classroom there is an activity ready for them to complete. Students remove coats and bags and put their planners on the desk. Instructions are important and so we expect students to be silent and listening when the teacher is talking.

2. Learning objectives with regular checking of progress against them. Each lesson should have a clear focus and clarity about what should be learnt in the lesson. It is only by having this clear learning objective, planned for differing needs within the class, that teachers are able to measure progress. Teachers will revisit the learning objective during the lesson seeking information from students via questioning, assessment, scanning books, mini-whiteboards, RAG (red, amber, green) pages from the planner about what has been understood. If students are unsure then the teacher will re-teach until students have achieved the learning objective.

3. Responding according to need. One of the unique things about Brentford is its' small size and this means that every child is known. At the start of the year we share important information about individual students including strategies that support learning. Each member of staff has a pink folder containing a multitude of information about every student in their class. Teachers use this information to plan lessons that are pitched at an appropriate level for students in the class so that students feel challenged and do not get left behind. There are a number of ways that teachers find out what has and has not been understood by students and we ask that teachers respond accordingly. We want them to pause during the lesson and then re-teach or re-frame information so that students do understand.

4. Consolidation and next steps. At the end of a lesson/sequence of lessons we ask that the teacher consolidates learning. By consolidate we mean that the teacher gives an overview of what has been covered which helps students to see the progress that they have made. Consolidation is an opportunity for students to check if there is anything that they have not understood. Those students who achieve attitude to learning grades of 1 are those who do ask questions and check if anything isn't clear. We do also expect students to carry out their own consolidation of learning at home and this is particularly important with a three-year GCSE programme.

The school make outstanding progress.

5. End and Send. At the end of the lesson a teacher may pull together the learning from that lesson in a plenary activity. The teacher will dismiss students in an orderly fashion so that they leave the classroom in a sensible manner and the corridors around the school remain safe and calm.

A full training plan is provided to staff every academic year and the majority of training takes place on INSET days and after school on a Thursday when all staff remain at school until 5.30. The training that is provided supports our school improvement priorities which are to ensure that all our students are able to make an informed decision on their GCSEs.

Year 9- As you are aware, the girls have now started their GCSE courses. Please ask them about the content of the course and how and when they will be assessed in each subject. Homework and equipment are a focus this term and it would be a real help if you could remind the girls to make sure they have completed all homework by the due date and are bringing the correct equipment to school.

Year 10- It is important as we start the second year of the GCSE courses that revision programmes are well underway and each of the students is now completing at least 40 minutes of planned revision each evening, as well as the homework they are set. If this can be achieved, last minute cramming and exam stress can be avoided due to proactive preparation.

Year 11- This is a really important year for the students and the time will fly and before we know it the summer exams will be upon us. We urge all students to ensure they are fully prepared for the rest of the year. Students must work hard to keep all work up to date and help is sought where it is required. We are sure with a last push this can be another successful year. We look forward to your continued support in helping your daughters achieve their full potential.

EXAM RESULTS

At Brentford School for Girls we are celebrating another year of excellent results at both GCSE and A Level. More than 60% of the Year 11 cohort achieved 5 or more GCSEs that were graded 9 to 5 and almost a quarter of all the grades achieved at GCSE were grades 9-7. Many of our year 11 students have successfully enrolled on the courses of their choice at our sixth form. We are confident that when the national data becomes available in mid-October, we will once again be well above the national average for our results.

We are also really proud of the fact that a large proportion of our Year 13 students have secured places at Russell Group universities on the course of their choice. We wish them the best of luck in the next stage of their studies. A massive thank you to our staff and students for all their hard work over the year that has culminated in another year of incredible exam success for us. Thank you also to all of our parents as these fantastic results would not be possible without your support.

WELCOME TO YEAR 7

First of all, I would like to take the opportunity to welcome you and your daughter to Brentford School for Girls. I am delighted to be the students' Year Leader and look forward to overseeing their progression. This is the start of an exciting but challenging journey for the students and I have extremely high expectations for the year group. My year team and I are looking forward to working with you and your daughter this academic year.

Please find below some key dates for your diary:

- 08/10/19 - Year 7 Academic Review Day

I am sure that your daughter's years at Brentford School will be both happy and successful.

HOUSE SYSTEM

BSfG believes that by having a House System we can foster personal and social qualities in students which will benefit and inspire them in their learning and life in general. The system also allows us to continue to create a positive and collaborative community. Pupils are provided with an enjoyable selection of competitive activities throughout the year with principal events in departments such as Sport. Working in Houses encourages pupils to develop teamwork by allowing them to work with students in other year groups and classes. The House system also promotes leadership opportunities for students at any age.

The Houses and associated colours are **AMBITIOUS (Yellow)**, **CONFIDENT (Purple)**, **FLEXIBLE (Green)**, **INQUISITIVE (Red)**, and **REFLECTIVE (Blue)**. These names were chosen to reflect the school values. The House System provides all pupils with the opportunity to experience competing as part of a team in a range of activities without adding to the pressures of being part of a school team. The aim of House activities is to involve a wide range of pupils in school activities, ones that they might not otherwise be involved in.

Competition

Each half term, there will also be an inter house competition which might be a quiz, a singing competition or a sports competition. These are the scheduled competitions for the upcoming year: -

- Year 7 summer photography competition
- Inquisitive video competition
- Wear it pink day
- Christmas song competition
- House Christmas fayre
- Bench ball competition.
- Inter-house quiz
- Treasure hunt
- Sports day

House Points will be awarded throughout the year for competitions for each year group. Any examples of "public spirit" – care for the environment, helpfulness to members of staff, assisting at extra – curricular functions etc. - also attract the reward of house points.

These points are collected each term and collated. Not only are houses rewarded each half term with house points for the number of achievements received for all students, but the system also operates as a **running total**, i.e. each total recorded is calculated **from the September of the academic year**. The upkeep and displays on these boards are the responsibility of the House Captains.

House Assemblies will take place on a regular basis in accordance with the school calendar. They will be organised by the House Captains.

House System Coordinator: Ms N Garrett

SO YOU WANT TO BE A...

Throughout the year we will be hosting talks at lunch time from various professionals to talk to students about their career journey and tips on how to achieve success in the ever-changing job market. This term these talks will take place on:

- 14th October 2019
- 26th November 2019

DIGITAL HEALTHY SCHOOLS

This year we are excited to launch the 'Digital Healthy Schools Programme'. This is a free initiative that helps students explore and understand digital health and see the real difference it can make to their own health and wellbeing. This innovative new programme harnesses the device students use most – their smart phones.

Take note...

- Over 90% of under 16's in the UK own a mobile
- Digital health solutions are increasingly recognised as being a major aid to managing and improving health
- Of every 100 children, 10 will have a clinically diagnosable mental health problem, yet only three of those ten will receive treatment
- The Digital Healthy Schools programme will help to educate pupils on being healthy, and managing their mental health

The Care Quality Commission reports that a fear of being stigmatised, can mean that young people do not seek help for mental health problems. Teaching young people about digital health means that help will be more accessible to them. They will be able to access help when they need it.

Look out for more information over the coming term.

OPEN EVENING

Tuesday 1st October sees this year's Open Evening. The evening is directed at prospective Year 5 and 6 parents who may be interested in their daughter joining our school in September 2020. Brentford continues to be an increasingly popular choice locally for girls and their parents. Please do encourage any friends or family who may be interested to attend the evening. Last year we had a lot of disappointed parents who had chosen Brentford and didn't get their choice of school. One of the reasons for this is that they did not say on their application that they would like a girls' school. If you are applying for a sibling or you are aware of anyone you know applying for a place with us, please remind them to make this clear on their application form. Please also note that the school closes at 2.30pm on the 1st of October for students and reopens on 3rd October for Years 8-11. Year 7 will be in school for part of the day. A separate letter detailing this has been sent home.

NEW 3 G SPORTS SURFACE REPLACES REDGRA

After being granted planning permission in April to replace our old Redgra sports surface we have come back to school this term to the new sports being nearly finished! It looks amazing and will give the PE department and the girls a state-of-the-art surface to teach and play on which can be used throughout the year, not just when it is dry. We look forward to the new surface being finished towards the end of September and then having it opened officially before October half term. So watch this space!!

6TH FORMER FOR A DAY

All of our Year 11 students will gain the opportunity to experience a day in the life of a sixth former during October. Students will be expected to attend in business dress and experience 6th Form lessons. Watch this space!

KEY DATES

- 19/09/19 Welcome to Year 11 evening 6pm - 7pm
- 25/9/19 Careers fair
- 26/9/19 Welcome to Year 12 evening 6pm - 7pm
- 2/10/19 INSET day (school closed to students in year 8-11. Year 7 in school for part of the day)
- 8/10/19 Welcome to Year 7 evening 6-7pm
- 17/10/19 Year 9 parents' evening 5.30 - 8pm

TERM DATES

AUTUMN TERM 2019:

WEDNESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER - THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER

- SCHOOL ENDS - FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER / 15:20PM
- HALF TERM - MONDAY 21ST OCTOBER - TUESDAY 29TH OCTOBER
- SCHOOL RETURNS - WEDNESDAY 30TH OCTOBER
- OCCASIONAL DAY (SCHOOL CLOSED TO STAFF AND STUDENTS) - FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER
- SCHOOL ENDS - THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER / 12:30PM
- CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS - FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER - FRIDAY 3RD JANUARY

SPRING TERM 2020: MONDAY 6TH JANUARY - FRIDAY 3RD APRIL

- SCHOOL RETURNS - MONDAY 6TH JANUARY
- SCHOOL ENDS - FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY / 15:20PM
- HALF TERM - MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY - FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY
- SCHOOL ENDS - FRIDAY 3RD APRIL / 12:30PM
- EASTER HOLIDAYS - MONDAY 6TH APRIL - FRIDAY 17TH APRIL
- STUDENTS RETURN ON TUESDAY 21ST APRIL

SUMMER TERM 2020: TUESDAY 21ST APRIL - FRIDAY 17TH JULY

- SCHOOL RETURNS - MONDAY 20TH APRIL
- HALF TERM - MONDAY 25TH MAY - FRIDAY 29TH MAY
- SCHOOL RETURNS - TUESDAY 2ND JUNE
- END OF TERM - FRIDAY 17TH JULY / 12:30PM

PPES

These are the dates for the PPEs (Pre-Public Examinations) throughout the year.

- 14th October Year 11 PPE1
- 4th November Year 13 PPE1
- 7th January English Literature PPE1
- 24th February Year 11 PPE2
- 2nd March Year 13 PPE2
- 11th March English Literature PPE2
- 27th April Year 9 PPE
- 2nd June Year 12 PPE

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

MS AGNIHOTRI Head of 6th Form

MS GOODING Teacher of English

MS JENKINS Teacher of Art and Technology

MS LANCASHIRE Teacher of History

MS LECOQ Teacher of PE

MS MEPHAM Teacher of MFL

MS PUGH Teacher of Geography

MS CHADZYNSKI Teacher of Geography

BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

MONDAY

FREE BREAKFAST CLUB (YR 7-13) 08.00-08:30 (T1)
LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB (YR 7-13) 13:00-13:30 (T2)
GYMNASTICS (YR 7-13) 13.00 - 13.30 PANKHURST GYM
FOOTBALL (YR 7-8) 13.00 - 13.30 COURTS/ASTRO
FILM ACADEMY (YR 7, 8 & 10) 13.00 - 13.30 (C1)
NETBALL (YR 7) 15.20 - 16.20 NETBALL COURTS
DUKE OF EDINBURGH (YR9-10) 15.20-16.20 (T1)

TUESDAY

FREE BREAKFAST CLUB (YR 7-13) 08.00-08:30 (T1)
LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB (YR 7-13) 13:00-13:30 (T2)
NETBALL (YR7) 13.00 - 13.30 NETBALL COURTS
NETBALL (YR 10-11) 15:20-16:20 NETBALL COURTS
THE WRITE STUFF (YR 9-13) 15:20-16:20 (M11)

WEDNESDAY

FREE BREAKFAST CLUB (YR 7-13) 08.00-08:30 (T1)
LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB (YR 7-13) 13:00-13:30 (T2)
BADMINTON (YR 7-13) 13:00-13:30 CURIE GYM
GCSE PE CLUB (YR 10-11) 13:00-13:30 PANKHURST GYM
NETBALL (YR 8-9) 15:20-16:20 NETBALL COURTS
DEBATE MATE* (YR 7-10) 15.20 - 16.30 (M16)
*STARTS NOVEMBER 2019

THURSDAY

FREE BREAKFAST CLUB (YR 7-13) 08.00-08:30 (T1)
LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB (YR 7-13) 13:00-13:30 (T2)
JUST DANCE (YR 7-13) 13:00-13:30 THEATRE
NETBALL (YR 8-9) 13:00-13:30 NETBALL COURTS
SPANISH CLUB (YR 7-13) 13:00-13:30 (M15)
CODE MASTERS (YR 7-13) 13:00-13:30 (T1)
EAL LUNCH CLUB (YR 7-13) 13.00 - 1.30 (A3)
HARLEQUINS RUGBY (YR 7-13) 15.20 - 16.20 COURTS/ASTRO

FRIDAY

FREE BREAKFAST CLUB (YR 7-13) 08.00-08:30 (T1)
LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB (YR 7-13) 13:00-13:30 (T2)
MULTI-SPORTS (YR 7) 13:00-13:30 COURTS/ASTRO
INDOOR GAMES (YR7, 8 & 9) 13:00-13:30 (P1)
EAL LUNCH CLUB (YR 7-13) 13.00 - 1.30 (A3)

AMBITIOUS | CONFIDENT | FLEXIBLE | INQUISITIVE | REFLECTIVE

BRENTFORD 6th FORM

OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 7TH NOVEMBER

6PM - 8PM

EXTERNAL
APPLICANTS
WELCOME



BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

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

OPEN EVENING TUESDAY 1ST OCTOBER: 6 - 8.30PM

YEAR 6 OPEN MORNINGS

TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT, GO TO
[WWW.BRENTFORD.HOUNSLOW.SCH.UK/
TRANSITION2019/OPENMORNINGS](http://WWW.BRENTFORD.HOUNSLOW.SCH.UK/TRANSITION2019/OPENMORNINGS) AND FILL OUT
A QUICK FORM. AFTER COMPLETION, A BOOKING
CONFIRMATION WILL BE EMAILED TO YOU.

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE INTERNET ACCESS, PLEASE RING
OUR RECEPTION TO BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT:

0208 847 4281

WEDNESDAY
9TH OCTOBER - 9.30AM - 11.00AM
FRIDAY
11TH OCTOBER - 9.30AM - 11.00AM
WEDNESDAY
16TH OCTOBER - 9.30AM - 11.00AM
FRIDAY
18TH OCTOBER - 9.30AM - 11.00AM



Sponsor of our Netball Team

OPEN MORNING SCHEDULE

09:30 ARRIVAL - TEA/COFFEE AND WELCOME
09:45 INTRODUCTION AND TOUR
10:40 HEADTEACHER Q&A
11:00 FINISH