

# 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,

I write to you with complete disbelief that we are at the end of the first half term! It's been such a busy half term as the students have settled back into their routines and learning after the long summer break. Following a fantastic set of English results for them this summer, achieving some excellent literature results, Year 11 have settled back into school with the maturity with which they approached Year 10! They are already attending booster classes, revising for their PPE examinations (which they are currently in the middle of), as well as selling sweet treats for the fundraising they are doing towards their end of year prom. Our sixth form have also settled in very quickly, and those new to Year 12 are adapting to the demands of their new courses.

A welcome to Year 7 parents and a special well done to all of year 7. They have made such a brilliant start to their time here at Brentford and it has been a pleasure to watch them grow in confidence over the last term (this is the value they have all been working on and at the end of this half term they received a special pink 'confidence' badge to remind them of their achievements).

Talking of achievements, we received a visit from the Ofsted team this half term and, although I am not yet able to share the outcome of the visit, they were incredibly impressed with the work of the school, and especially pleased with the way in which the girls behaved. Thank you so much to those parents who shared their feedback with the team. 95% of you said that you would recommend this school to other parents. We know we still have some areas to work on, but we were so pleased that you and the team can see what a wonderful school community we have here. As soon as the report is released, it will be shared with you.

Wishing you all a restful half term

Best regards,



Ms Leenders  
Executive Headteacher

## FUTURE MAKERS CONCERT

This annual competition is back at the Royal Albert Hall, and the Music Department is delighted to be taking 30 students from Years 7 and 8 to be part of the live audience. During the concert, talented musicians aged from 14 to 19 will audition to be the next Future Maker, playing original music in front of a panel of judges, as well as the KS2 and KS3 audience. Hosted by Jess Gillam and Lionheart, this will be a trip to inspire the next generation of Future Makers.

## FLU IMMUNISATIONS

Flu immunisations will take place in school on two dates this term, Thursday 7th November and Tuesday 10th December. Should you wish your daughter to have the immunisation please complete the online consent form. Your daughter cannot have this immunisation without a completed consent form which goes directly to the Hounslow immunisation team. Details have been emailed home. Please be aware this immunisation is not an injection, but a nasal spray (gelatine free option also available).

## TEEN READ LAUNCH

Hounslow Teen Read is a great event which is organised by Hounslow School Library Services and involves other schools from the borough taking part. The librarians get together to choose the 6 books that each student will be reading. The students then get to vote on their favourite book. All the votes are counted and the winning book/author is announced at the final which takes place in March. It is a great way to encourage reading for pleasure and getting together to talk about books.

## ODD SOCKS DAY

Odd socks day will take place on Wednesday 13th November 2024. The Anti-Bullying Alliance in the UK established the day to get children and adults alike to be brave and stand up against bullying. The idea for Odd Socks Day is that it's not bad to stand out, and everyone can be proud of their uniqueness and differences.

## V&A UPSTART CAREERS FESTIVAL

The Creative industries is worth more than £115bn and accounts for over 7% of all jobs in the UK. It is the fastest growing sector for employment in London. We have been given an opportunity to take the year 11 textiles students to the V&A museum to meet a range of creative industry employers, and to discover the wealth of opportunities there are.

## YEAR 10 TRIP TO TATE MODERN

In our current Pop Art project we are learning about British and American Pop Artists. We are looking forward to seeing the original pieces on display as well as later modern artists for further influence. We will also be able to explore the potential references for new projects these budding artists will do at BSFG.

## YEAR 10 TRIP TO NATIONAL PORTRAIT

### GALLERY

In Photography we are exploring Portraiture, which will contribute to our 60% Coursework. We are looking forward to seeing a variety of media used to capture portraiture on display in the National Portrait Gallery. We will then use this to inform our projects further and to capture new ideas on developments. We will also be able to explore the potential references for new projects these budding photographers will do at BSFG.

## YEAR 12 ELEVATE

On Wednesday 20th November, we have invited in Elevate Education to deliver their 'Study Sensai' workshop to the whole of Year 12, as part of our commitment to help them with their transition to KS5 learning.

This workshop will cover the following;

- Utilising the syllabus to frame study
- Structuring and reviewing organised notes
- Conceptual learning to develop deep understanding
- Utilising practice exam papers
- Standing out through independent learning

## YEAR 9 - PARENTS EVENING (VIRTUAL)

It has been a busy but very positive start to the academic year for Year 9. We look forward to meeting the students and parents of our year 9 cohort on Thursday 21st November, to discuss the progress the students have made during the first half term of their GCSE courses.

## A LEVEL - PSYCHOLOGY REVISION TRIP

On the 27th of November the Year 13 Psychology students will have the opportunity to kickstart their revision for the A-Level exams in a revision workshop held at Westfield White City. It consists of 4 workshops to help designed and delivered by experienced examiner presenters. It is an opportunity for our students to engage with some of the vital skills and knowledge needed to be successful at A-Level Psychology and to interact with other Psychology students across London. They will also receive really helpful revision activities setting them up for success.

## PRE-OWNED UNIFORM SALE

Due to the success of our pre owned uniform sale, we will be holding another sale on Tuesday 19th November at 3.45pm in the main school hall. Both cash and cards will be accepted as payment. Please see the price list below. All welcome.

- Shirt - £2.00.
- Skirt/trousers - £5.00.
- Jumper/cardigan - £10.00.
- Blazers - £15.00.
- Coats - £15

## YEAR 12 & 13 TRIP TO BOROUGH MARKET

A-Level Students are invited to explore Borough market and its surroundings through the lens of a camera and sketchbook. These photographs can help document and inform their Personal Investigations and further ideas. This is a lovely opportunity for the girls to gain Culture Capital as they are exposed to our city's social dynamic, architecture, transport and creative atmosphere.

## YEAR 11 - PARENTS EVENING (IN-PERSON)

Year 11 Parents' Evening will be taking place on Thursday 5th December in the school and appointments will be conducted in person. We look forward to seeing Y11 parents/carers and pupils to discuss progress in all subject areas.

## 6TH FORMER FOR A DAY

On Friday 6th December our Year 11 students will get the chance to experience the 'Day in the life of a 6th Former'. This day will give our Year 11 students the opportunity to come to school in their own smart business attire and be taught 6th Form lessons.

On this day they will have the same privileges as Sixth Formers during breaks and lunches too, as well as getting the opportunity to meet with Year 13's and ask them questions.

This day will be followed by Sixth Form Applications opening and the deadline to complete the application online is Friday 10th January 2025.

## YEAR 12 DEAR DAY

On Friday 6th December, Year 12 have a 'DEAR' (Drop Everything and Read) Day. This day is in line with our schools' vision to encourage reading amongst our young people and to continue developing their literacy skills. Year 12 are off site on this day, so they use the time at home to begin reading a book of their choice, which they then have three weeks to complete and write a book review on, which is shared in tutor time and via Year 12 assemblies.

## AUTHOR VISIT

I am delighted to announce that the Author Tia Fisher will be visiting our school at the beginning of December. She will be talking to year 9 and 10 students about her book 'Crossing the Line.' Her book was the winner of the Yoto Carnegie Showers' choice and winner in the 11-14+ category at the UKLA awards 2024. These visits help build relationships between the author and the reader and it is a great insight into what it takes to become a writer.

## YEAR 10 - JACK PETCHEY SPEAK OUT

Year 10 will have the opportunity to sign up for one of the thirty places in the Jack Petchey Speak Out workshop this term. It is a one day workshop where students will take part in activities designed to improve their confidence and delivery in public speaking. This will also help to prepare them for their English Language Spoken Language exam. The best speakers on the day will also have the opportunity to compete to represent the school at the Jack Petchey Speak Out Regional Final.

We have a history of success in this competition, as our girls are confident, articulate and passionate speakers. Last year we hosted this event, as we had the Regional Final winner the previous year. In the recent past, we have also had two National Finalists representing BSFG and hope to carry on this trend this year.

## YEAR 12/13- PAL TALK

On 12th December, we will be welcoming one of our local training providers to talk to our 6th form students about the range of vocational options available as they consider their post-18 options. With the number of young people interested in apprenticeships growing, it is vital our students have all the information, advice and support to make the right decision for them.

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT - SAVE THE DATE

11th December

Save the date! The annual Christmas show is coming to Brentford to showcase student talent in Drama, Dance and Music.

This performance will be in the school auditorium at 6pm and be preceded by festive food and drink. We look forward to seeing you all there.

## 6TH FORM ENTERTAINMENT & CELEBRATIONS

Brentford will continue with our annual festivities, which will take place in the final week of the term. Our Christmas events will include:

- The sale of Candy Cane bags
- The Christmas Entertainment Show on Monday 18th December
- Christmas jumper day
- A tutor time Christmas Quiz

These events will be organised and led by the Year 13 Events coordinators. These will help to raise money for charity and the end of year celebrations for Year 13.



## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The annual Christmas lunch is taking place on Wednesday 18th December, including all our delicious favourites and a Christmas Cracker! This is always very popular and we ask that you book in advance as usual on SCOPay, using the 'main meal' option. Please note, this will be the only hot option on this day. Cold options will still be available.

## BRENTFORD FC TALK ON MARKETING

We are delighted to welcome the marketing team at Brentford FC to talk to our Year 10 Business studies students. This is a fantastic opportunity for the students to gain real life insight on how a premier league football club generates income and gains sponsorship and supporters.

This talk is part of our ongoing partnership with Brentford as part of their outreach programme.

## YEAR 7 - PANTO

As part of our desire to raise cultural capital, on Thursday 19th December Year 7 will be going to watch Aladdin at Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith. This will be an action packed pantomime performance, which promises to be full of comedy, elaborate costumes and great scenery. The cost of the trip is £15 and all payments are to be made on SCOPay. Students will be accompanied by staff to and from the Theatre on public transport. We look forward to this fun filled afternoon.

## PTA EVENT

The first PTA event of the year will take place on Thursday 19th December. Full details of the event and how you can join the PTA will be sent out to all parents/ carers following the October break.

## MUFTI DAY/ CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

The last day of the autumn term will be a mufti day. As always at this time of year as we enter the festive period, the theme for mufti day will be a Christmas jumper day. Each student will need to pay £1 via Scopay to attend school wearing their own clothes, the more Christmassy the better. All proceeds from the day will go towards the schools chosen charity, Save the Children.



## 6TH FORM - ELDERLY HOMES HAMPER DROP OFF

We look forward to maintaining our wonderful relationship with our local care homes by providing them with a lovely hamper of gifts, non-perishable food products, a puzzle pack and some personalised letters/postcards from students all across the school. In Year 12, the creation of the hampers will be part of their house competitions.

The hampers are beautifully packaged and delivered by our sixth form students on the last day of term.

## CANTEEN UPDATE

The canteen continues to offer delicious and healthy freshly prepared meals from our 5 Star Hygiene rated kitchen. The canteen staff are always ready to help students, especially with advice on allergies.

After half term, we are extending our Halal offer to include sandwiches and Chicken Wraps every day. We continue to offer a mixed option of hot meals Monday to Friday; Halal days are Tuesday and Thursday. Please remember to pre-order your daughter's lunch on SCOPay.

## IMPORTANT DATES IN AUTUMN TERM 2

- Monday 4th November: Occasional Day
- Tuesday 5th November: Occasional Day
- Tuesday 5th November: English Language Retake GCSE Exam (am)
- Wednesday 6th November: Maths Component 1 Retake GCSE Exam (am)
- Wednesday 6th November: Future Makers Concert
- Thursday 7th November: Flu Immunisations
- Thursday 7th November: English Language Paper 2 Re-take GCSE Exam (am)
- Friday 8th November: Maths Component 2 Retake GCSE Exam (am)
- Wednesday 13th November: Odd Socks Day
- Friday 15th November: Whole School Photos
- Friday 15th November: V&A Upstart Careers Festival
- Monday 18th November: Year 10 Trip to Tate Modern
- Monday 18th November: Year 10 Trip to National Portrait Gallery
- Wednesday 20th November: Year 12 Elevate (9:15-10:15am)
- Thursday 21st November: Year 9 Parents Evening 5pm - 8pm (Virtual)
- Thursday 21st November: Teen Read Launch
- Wednesday 27th November: A Level Psychology Revision Trip
- Thursday 28th November: Year 12 & 13 Trip to Borough Market
- Friday 29th November: Occasional Day
- Thursday 5th December: Year 11 Parents Evening 5:30pm - 8pm (In Person)
- Friday 6th December: 6th Former for a Day
- Monday 9th December: Jack Petchey Speak Out
- Monday 9th December: 6th Form Applications Open
- Monday 9th December: Yr 9 & 10 Author Visit
- Tuesday 10th December: Flu Immunisations
- Tuesday 10th December: PAL Talk (Yr 12 & 13)
- Wednesday 11th December: Christmas Concert
- Tuesday 17th December: 6th Form Entertainment
- Wednesday 18th December: Christmas Lunch
- Thursday 19th December: Year 7 Panto
- Thursday 19th December: PTA Event
- Friday 20th December: Mufti Day/ Christmas Jumper Day
- Friday 20th December: Elderly Homes Hamper Drop Off
- Friday 20th December: School Ends at 12:30pm

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