



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/Carers,

Welcome back, I hope that you had a restful break. Staff have been working hard with the girls to prepare them for the data collection series to ensure that they are all making good progress at this point, mid way through the academic year. Students sitting A-levels and GCSE's in Years 10 and 11 have been conscientiously revising and preparing for their examinations.

This is an incredibly busy and stressful time for them. We are doing everything we can to support their revision and provide them with various well-being activities to help with stress management. As always, good preparation is key and we try and teach all of the girls this from the moment they arrive with us in Year 7. Please do support us in wishing the girls good luck over the next few months.

As well as learning within class, the school has, over the last half term, been awash with various other enrichment activities. The careers day in January was a great success and the finale to the spring half term was without doubt the school production of the incredible 'Lion King'. It was a truly spectacular performance. Thank you to all of the staff who have given up endless hours of time to make this a real masterpiece and of course to the students, both Brentford's and Worple's for entertaining us so brilliantly.

We have just welcomed back the annual school ski trip from Austria and our sixth form trip to New York. The girls had a fantastic time, look out for our next highlights magazine for their best bits.

Best regards,

Marais Leenders
Head teacher

BEHAVIOUR UPDATE

Good attendance is vital. Attending school regularly is important for all pupils because of how their attendance can affect their educational attainment and their subsequent life chances. Although the evidence shows that most pupils attend school regularly, there are some who struggle with attendance. At Brentford School for Girls we remain well above national average for our student attendance, but it is vital we continue to work with students, parents and carers to ensure support is in place where attendance is a concern.

Parents and carers have a legal duty to ensure that their children of compulsory school age receive a suitable full-time education. It is also vital that they encourage their child's regular and punctual attendance at school. If a child is registered at a school then it is vital that they attend on a regular basis

Missing school for just a few days a year can damage pupils' chances of gaining good GCSE results. So it is critical, we as a school, work with both the parents and the students to ensure we maintain excellent attendance here at Brentford. It is important, therefore, that parents/carers, where possible, ensure all non emergency appointments are taken outside of school hours or in the school holidays. Parents/carers must also ensure that holidays are not taken within the school term and understand that they will not be authorised by the school.

There are many issues that may lead a student's attendance to drop and in these cases it is important that parents/carers contact the school as soon as possible. Contacting your daughters tutor or Head of Year means a plan can be put in place to resolve any issues and ease any concerns they may have about school that are impacting a drop in attendance.

Here at Brentford we celebrate the attendance of our students both on a weekly and half termly basis. This is done by identifying those who have achieved outstanding attendance individually, as a tutor group or year group. We feel if attendance is praised and celebrated it will create a culture each of our pupils will aim to live up to.

We continually work with our staff, students and parents/carers to maintain a positive working environment, one that all students want to attend and feel safe and valued when doing so.

ALUMNI UPDATE

Congratulations to ex-Head Girl Leia-Janine Bromfield-Peltier who graduated from Liverpool University with a Masters in Civil Engineering last year. Leia has now secured her first graduate position at Atkins, one of the world's most respected design, engineering and project management consultancies.

HIGHER EDUCATION UPDATE

We are delighted that two of our current 6th formers, have been offered places on degree courses at Cambridge University. This is dependent on their summer exam results, but a huge motivator to do well!

CAREERS WEEK 2020

National Careers Week runs from the 2nd to the 7th of March this year and aims to promote the importance of good careers education in schools and colleges. Students will do dedicated activities in form time that week and Year 10 students will have a STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) careers networking opportunity. If any parents from a STEM background would like to support this event, please email: ebrown@brentford.hounslow.sch.uk

DEBATE MATE

Debate Mate run after-school debating clubs and currently work in 250 primary and secondary schools throughout the UK. Last year, Debate Mate worked in partnership with Comic Relief and collaborated on our Urban Debate League Competition; students debated important global issues that are supported by Comic Relief. In April, secondary school students had the opportunity to attend a debate in partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation!

In these sessions, students learn the art of public speaking and how to debate in a formal setting. Debating is shown to improve students' critical and creative thinking; teamwork; leadership; empathy and self-management. Students who have been on the programme see substantial progress in their speaking and listening skills, their engagement with school, and a range of students have been shown to benefit and enjoy.

On Wednesday 29th January students competed in a team in the first round of the Urban Debate League for Debate Mate against debate teams from other schools. It is an excellent experience, designed to build skills and confidence in public speaking, articulating arguments and opinions and working as a team. We are proud that students are being brave and taking part in the event. They have worked hard to prepare.

BETHLEM MUSEUM

As an introduction to the Schizophrenia topic, the Year 13 Psychology class visited Bethlem Museum of the Mind. The Museum is situated within the grounds of Bethlem Royal Hospital, the UK's first institution to specialise in the care of the mentally ill, which currently provides care for in-patients with a mental illness. The students had an opportunity to learn about the history of Bethlem; experience art work produced by artists who suffered from a mental illness; meet with a Nurse Consultant and ask questions about the different mental health treatments offered to patients. Students were left with a better understanding about the realities of mental health and the social implications of effective treatment.

FREUD MUSEUM

As an introduction to Psychological Approaches, Year 12 will be visiting the Freud Museum, the final home of Sigmund Freud, the founding father of Psychoanalysis. They will have the opportunity to view the 'iconic' couch where Freud assessed many patients, talk to experts in psychoanalysis and ask questions about the influence of Psychodynamic explanations for human behaviour and mental illness.

GCSE & A LEVEL FILM STUDIES: STUDY DAYS AT THE BFI

This March, the film studies department are taking two trips out to the British Film Institute on the Southbank in Central London. Each trip will be a dedicated interactive study day for students that will support them in developing their knowledge and skills in approaching the demanding Film Studies academic examinations. Sound serious, huh? It's actually a lot of fun! Watching and discussing film extracts with students from other schools across the country led by an academic, developing a deeper understanding and practicing the techniques required for success at each level. There will also be a guest filmmaker speaking, so students get the industry inside story on a particular film. Last year we listened to Joe Cornish talking about 'Attack the Block' which is on the GCSE spec. And all for just £10 for the day, a bargain!

A full review of the days will appear in the highlights magazine later in the year.

A reminder for all film studies students in Year 11 and 12, full payment is needed by ScoPay ASAP.

YEAR 13 PPE

All Year 13 students will be sitting their final PPE's the week commencing 2nd March 2020. Most students will be expected to complete two papers for each of their subjects and have been informed of all the key material they need to revise in order to achieve the best outcomes. We wish them the very best in these PPE's.

YEAR 11 PPE SPEAKING EXAMS

- The Y11 PPE French speaking exams will be taking place on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th of March.
- The Y11 PPE German speaking exams will be taking place on the 2nd and 3rd of March.

Students involved will be given individual appointment times.

6TH FORM EVENTS

We have many events coming up in the 6th form this term. Many of these will be organised and led by the Student Leadership Team and 6th Form students. These include reviews of books they have read, unused stationary sales and milkshake sales. These will help to raise money for charity and some for the end of year prom for Year 13s.

In addition to this we have visits to the local elderly homes to look forward to on Friday 3rd April where the 6th Formers arrange activities for the residents to try.

As a Sixth Form, we like to continue developing the social, moral and cultural aspects of the Brentford student. We organise an afternoon on 23rd March 2020 where we will explore contemporary issues affecting the well-being of young people today and how to build resilience.

YEAR 10 PARENTS EVENING

Year 10 Parents Evening on Thursday 5th March 5.30pm-8pm. This evening will give you the opportunity to speak to Subject Teachers and Form Tutors regarding your daughter's progress. Please check that your daughter makes appointment times with her teachers and marks them in her journal. As you know, this is a very important evening, and I hope that you will be able to attend. For your daughter to be successful in school and reach her full potential, it is important that both home and school work together in partnership. Ms Garrett, Lead Teacher House System and Head of Year 10.

YEAR 10 SCIENCE TRIP: SCIENCE LIVE

The trip is for sixty Year 10 students to visit Science Live in London where they will get:

- The chance to see and hear five of Britain's top scientists, all working at the cutting edge of their specialisms.
- The scientists are carefully chosen for their ability to communicate with students of this age in a direct and exciting way.
- Help improve your Science GCSE results with top tips on examination success from an experienced science examiner.
- Will show pupils that science really does offer solutions for many of the world's great problems.
- Increase the chances of GCSE pupils considering science subjects at AS and A2.
- The day will be fast-moving, exciting, thought-provoking and will give students the chance to raise issues with the scientists.
- Each pupil will receive a well-produced booklet with details about each scientist, the lectures and some general articles about studying science and working as scientists – as well as a number of pieces from an experienced chief examiner on success with Science GCSE.
- The primary objective is to generate greater enthusiasm for science amongst GCSE pupils.

HISTORY TRIP : OLD OPERATING THEATRE

On the 31st March, Year 9 history students will be visiting The Old Operating Theatre in London. As part of their GCSE course, they study health and the people in Britain from the year 1000 to present day. Significant themes within this course are surgery and public health. This trip will help bring to life, surgical procedures in the 19th Century and will also incorporate a walk and talk tour around London's cholera hotspots in the 19th century.

YEAR 8: OPTIONS UPDATE

The options process is underway with the students embarking on a number of activities this half term. We started with

assemblies dedicated to subjects outlining their courses and providing students with vital information to base their decisions. This was followed up with tutor activities allowing students to look further into the subjects and consider unanswered questions.

Ms Brown organised a fantastic careers day for the girls. The goal of the day was to consider future aspirations, identify and develop skills needed in the world of work and the opportunity to meet a number of people from a variety of professions and backgrounds. As part of the networking activity, Brentford alumni returned to Brentford and explained their journeys since leaving school.

On the 23rd January, we held our options evening which was very well attended. On the evening, both parents and students were explained the options process and key elements to consider to make informed choices. Parents and students were welcomed into Curie Gym to speak with subject representatives so they can find out more about the courses offered and ask those vital questions. Thank you for your support.

The girls have approached the process so far with great maturity and we hope to help the girls make the best choices possible in the following timescale.

DATE	EVENT
30th January 2020	DP2 Issued
w/c24th February 2020	Lunchtime taster sessions for Year 8
26th March 2020	Year 8 parents evening
27th March- 2nd April 2020	Options forms to be returned
2nd April 2020	Deadline for options forms to be returned
27th April – 1st May 2020	Year 8 interviews with Mr May to confirm choices (where necessary)
6th May 2020	Year 8 informed of their final option choices
13th May 2020	Deadline to request changes
14th May 2020	Final changes made and final choice relayed to students & parents

IMMUNISATIONS IN SCHOOL: YEAR 8 & 9

HPV immunisation.

- This immunisation helps protect students from catching the HPV virus.

The school leavers booster immunisation

- These immunisations helps protect students from four different types of meningitis. This immunisation also includes Diphtheria, tetanus and the Polio booster.

HPV dates

- The year nine student are due to have their second dose of the HPV immunisation on June 17th 2020.
- The year eight students will have their first dose of the HPV on June 16th 2020.

School Leavers Booster date

- The year nine students will receive this on March 10th 2020.

All students will bring home consent forms including information about each immunisation a few weeks before the due date.

STUDENT SAFETY AND WELL-BEING EVENING

The next Helping Undo Barriers (HUB) information evening is Thursday 19th March 2020 from 6-7:30pm in the main school hall.

HUB information evening's will take place once per term and will cover a range of topics to ensure that all parents/carers feel confident to support their daughters with a variety of 'topical issues'. The March meeting will cover the following topics:

- Personal Safety** – PC Megan Harvey, MET Police School's Officer.
- Online safety updates.**
- Sarina Dhillon, Early Help Hub Practitioner. Sarina will explain **Hounslow's new initiative – Hounslow HUB**, which can offer a selection of services with the aim to provide an effective support network to families as soon as difficulties start.

If you would like to attend the event, please book your space by accessing this link on the homepage pop up :

www.brentford.hounslow.sch.uk or under the following location www.brentford.hounslow.sch.uk/support/the-hub/student-safety-and-wellbeing-evening

STUDENT TERM DATES

SPRING 2020: MONDAY 24TH FEBRUARY - FRIDAY 24TH APRIL

24TH FEBRUARY: RETURN TO SCHOOL/Y11 PPE'S START/NYC TRIP RETURNS/YR8 OPTION TASTER SESSIONS WEEK
 02ND MARCH: YR13 PPE'S START/NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK/YR 11 FRENCH & GERMAN SPEAKING EXAMS
 03RD MARCH: ROCK SCHOOL VISIT/YR 11 FRENCH & GERMAN SPEAKING EXAMS
 04TH MARCH: YR 11 FRENCH SPEAKING EXAM/DEBATE MATE
 05TH MARCH: YR 12 PSYCHOLOGY TRIP/YR 10 PARENTS EVENING 5.30-8PM /YR11 STEM WORKSHOPS/WORLD BOOK DAY/YR 10 SCIENCE NETWORKING
 06TH MARCH: 6TH FORM V&A TRIP/A-LEVEL BFI TRIP/YR12 WOMEN OF THE WORLD
 09TH MARCH: HOUSE BENCHBALL COMPETITION/INTERNATIONAL WOMANS DAY/SPORTS RELIEF WEEK/YR 6 INTO YR7 OPEN MORNING 9.30 - 11AM
 10TH MARCH: IMMUNISATION SCHOOL LEAVERS
 11TH MARCH: YR 6 INTO YR7 EVENING 6-7.30PM
 12TH MARCH: YR12 UCAS DAY
 13TH MARCH: YR 11 BFI TRIP
 18TH MARCH: ROCKSCHOOL ROADSHOW WEEK STARTS
 19TH MARCH: STUDENT SAFETY & WELL-BEING EVENING 6-7.30PM/ KS5 CONNECT GRADUATION AFTER SCHOOL
 23RD MARCH: 6TH FORM PSE AFTERNOON
 25TH MARCH: ROCK SCHOOL DDD
 26TH MARCH: YR8 PARENTS EVENING 5.30 TO 8PM
 30TH MARCH: INTERHOUSE QUIZ
 31ST MARCH: A LEVEL ART EXAM/HISTORY TRIP 09.30 - 15.00
 01ST APRIL: YR13 SOCIOLOGY/PSYCHOLOGY REVISION CONFERENCE
 02ND APRIL: OPTIONS DEADLINE/A-LEVEL DRAMA PERFORMANCE 6PM/A LEVEL ART EXAM
 03RD APRIL: SCHOOL ENDS 12.30PM EASTER HOLIDAY/ELDERLY VISITS/A-LEVEL DEADLINE/A-LEVEL ART EXAM
 15TH APRIL: PSYCHOLOGY REVISION CONFERENCE
 20TH APRIL: INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STUDENTS
 22ND APRIL: A-LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY EXAM
 23RD APRIL: A-LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY EXAM/FILM FEST 7PM
 24TH APRIL: A-LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY EXAM

BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
FREE BREAKFAST CLUB (YR 7-13) 08.00-08:30 (T1)	FREE BREAKFAST CLUB (YR 7-13) 08.00-08:30 (T1)	FREE BREAKFAST CLUB (YR 7-13) 08.00-08:30 (T1)	FREE BREAKFAST CLUB (YR 7-13) 08.00-08:30 (T1)	FREE BREAKFAST CLUB (YR 7-13) 08.00-08:30 (T1)
LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB (YR 7-13) 13.00-13:30 (T2)	LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB (YR 7-13) 13.00-13:30 (T2)	LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB (YR 7-13) 13.00-13:30 (T2)	LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB (YR 7-13) 13.00-13:30 (T2)	LUNCHTIME HOMEWORK CLUB (YR 7-13) 13.00-13:30 (T2)
GYMNASTICS (YR 7-13) 13.00 - 13.30 PANKHURST GYM	FOOTBALL (YR9 - YR11) 13.00 - 13.30 ASTRO	BADMINTON (YR 7-8) 13.00-13.30 CURIE GYM	JUST DANCE (YR 7-13) 13.00-13.30 THEATRE	BASKETBALL (YR 7-8) 13.00-13.30 CURIE GYM
FOOTBALL (YR 7-8) 13.00 - 13.30 ASTRO	NETBALL (YR 7) 13.00-13.30 NETBALL COURTS	TAG RUGBY (YR 7-8) 13.00-13.30 ASTRO	NETBALL COURTS	INDOOR GAMES (YR7,8 & 9) 13.00-13:30 (P1)
FOOTBALL (YR 7-8) 15.20 - 16.30 ASTRO	BADMINTON (YR9 - YR13) 13.00 - 13.30 CURIE GYM	GCSE PE CLUB (YR 10-11) 13.00-13.30 PANKHURST GYM	BASKETBALL (YR 7-8) 13.00-13.30 CURIE GYM	MULTISPORTS (YR 7) 13.00 - 1.30 ASTRO
DUKE OF EDINBURGH (YR10) 15.20-16.20 (T1)	NETBALL (YR 10-11) 15:30-16:20 NETBALL COURTS	NETBALL (YR 8-9) 15:20-16:20 NETBALL COURTS	CODE MASTERS (YR 7-13) 13:00-13:30 (T4)	NETBALL (YR 7) 13.00 - 1.30 NETBALL COURTS
		DEBATE MATE (YR 7-10) 15.20 - 16.30 (M16)	EAL LUNCH CLUB (YR 7-13) 13.00 - 1.30 (A3) LION KING PROP MAKING (YR 7-13) 15.20 - 16.20 (05)	

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