



BRENTFORD BULLETIN

KEEPING YOU IN THE LOOP

HEAD TEACHER'S WELCOME

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been an incredibly busy few weeks here at BSfG. Following the last data collection and the interim reports (which you will have received), staff are working to support your daughter's progress. Many students did very well and most have some areas for improvement. This is never an issue for us. As the students move through their education, they will always have areas that they may need to improve on and it is what we do about it that really matters. Students are set targets and there is intervention; this may happen within lessons or your daughter may be asked to attend additional sessions after school, during holiday periods or at lunchtimes, or we may decide to keep monitoring but not intervene yet. Children develop at different speeds, but they are not robots. If your child is asked to attend an intervention session, this should not be seen as a punishment but as an opportunity! In many private schools families have to pay for these.

As a parent myself, one of the best things we can do is to support our children and when things are not going well, make them believe that they can achieve and help them to find a solution to the problem. I hope that you have taken the opportunity over the last few weeks to discuss your daughter's report with her.

As we move into the festive season, there are lots of different events and activities taking place in and outside of school. Please come and support our Christmas Fayre and Christmas concert (below). Both events are a fantastic showcase of the very best of our community. Also, look out for this term's Highlights magazine, which promises to be a brilliant biography all of the fantastic events and opportunities here at Brentford over the last term.

Festive greetings
Best wishes
M Leenders

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Our Christmas Fayre is on Wednesday 17th December and starts at 3.30pm – 5.30pm.

The team are working hard to put together a wonderful event. Lots of departments are once again running stalls, which include candy floss, henna painting, timed rowing challenges, Christmas decorations, paper beads and more. Additionally, lots of students are running a stall to raise money for Charity, including the Mulberry centre and the Cystic Fibrosis charity.

Our Community stalls are even more popular this year, with Icin' on the Cake, Popcorn Box, Teapigs, Cultivate London, INS (Integrated Neurological Services) Age UK and the London Museum of Steam & Water. Our raffles prizes are five wonderful hampers, which will be full of fantastic Christmas goodies in the colours of our School Houses (yellow, red, blue, green and purple), so do buy that winning raffle ticket!

We look forward to seeing you all. If you require any further information, please contact Liz Gers, Community Co-ordinator at lgers@brentford.hounslow.sch.uk

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Christmas is coming and a sure sign of this is the excitement, nay, musical buzz created by the prospect of the Christmas Concert. This year, that 'buzz' is already almost uncontrollable. The students have been queuing up to audition, while eager staff prepare their tuneful offering. This is a seasonal celebration and a time to join together with others in our vibrant community, to wish each other season's greeting through music and song. Hosted by two sixth form MCs, the Christmas Concert will be an evening to remember and a fitting end to a busy but fruitful term.

The Christmas Concert will take place in the Brentford School Theatre from 6 till 7.30pm on Wednesday the 17th December and tickets will be available through Ms Shute, initially for friends and families of performers, then open to all members of the school on a first come first served basis from the Finance Office. They are free, but we would love it if you might consider making a donation to our India fund, so that we can share our seasonal joy a little further.

THE PANTO TRIP

On the 10th of December, 110 students and staff, including our lovely ASD girls, are going to see Dick Wittington and his Cat at the Lyric Hammersmith. Always an event, we are continuing this tradition with our Year 7 students and also some of our 'theatrical stars,' who are currently working so hard preparing the school play - more on that really soon!

ILLEGAL PARKING

After several messages home about parents' dangerous parking on the zebra crossing and coming in to school to drop students off, we are writing to let you know that parents that persistently carry on with this dangerous practice will have their car registration details taken. We have tried, on numerous occasions, to request that parents stop this practice and, after numerous complaints from neighbours, we have no alternative other than to report this matter to the Community Police Officer, PC Beale, for further action to be taken.. Thank you to all the parents who have stopped parking on the zigzag lines, the zebra crossing and to the parents who no longer come into school.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The school Christmas lunch this year will be on Thursday 11th December. Roast turkey and all the trimmings and a vegetarian option will be available for the price of a school meal, which is £2.50. This is always a popular meal and a busy day in the canteen. If your daughter would like to have lunch that day, can you please make sure that she has sufficient funds loaded on to her account, either by an online payment or by the cash loader in the canteen, by break time at the very latest.

FOOD ALLERGENS

FOOD ALLERGENS - EU Directive 1169/2011 comes into force from the 13th December 2014 and will require many food manufacturers and restaurants to change the way that information is displayed by highlighting allergens. All food provided in our school canteen has been analysed and checked by our own staff and by an independent external consultant. All members of staff working in the kitchen have received training on how to identify any allergens which may

be contained within any food product sold by us and this new system has been in place since September. Should any student with an allergy wish to check the contents of any of our meals or food products, then the canteen staff will be happy to share this information with them. Should any parent wish to have further information about any of our menus, these are always available on the school website www.brentford.hounslow.sch.uk.

6TH FORM OPEN EVENING

Our 6th Form Open Evening was a real success. It was fantastic to see so many Year 11's and Year 10's. Year 11 students will have the opportunity to shadow a 6th Former for the day and experience A' Level lessons in January. Further details of this will be sent home to students and their parents/carers early in January. The deadline for applications is Friday 12th December.

6TH FORM BUSINESS DRESS

A reminder that all 6th Form Students and their parents and carers of the Business dress code that all students are expected to follow:

Wear smart trousers or skirt and top

Students should not be wearing the following:

- denim or t-shirts with logos
- trainers, Uggs, Vans, Converse or Canvas shoes
- hoodies
- caps
- tracksuit bottoms or tops
- leggings
- coloured hair
- piercings or heavy make up
- Timberland boots or coloured Dr Martin Shoes

MEDIA STUDIES CONFERENCE

On the 16th of December, 22 girls from AS and A2 Media Studies will be joining hundreds of students from across the country at the Media Magazine Annual Conference. This year, guest speakers include Jon Snow from Channel Four News and OCR chief examiner Pete Fraser, amongst a plethora of other industry professionals. It promises to be controversial and thought-provoking, as well as extremely useful for the students as preparation for their exams.

ACADEMIC REVIEW AFTERNOON

We recently held our first Academic Review afternoon of this academic year. This was an opportunity for Form Tutors and Heads of Year to meet parents of selected students, identified from our first data collection. Students had an opportunity to review their interim report and the SMART targets they had set earlier in the week with their Form Tutors. In Year 10, all students had the opportunity to discuss their progress and targets with members of the Leadership Team, their Head of Year or Form Tutors. Parental feedback was very positive and parents found the afternoon very useful. Our second Academic Review Afternoon will take place in February. Year 11 was not involved with the Academic Review afternoon, as there is a Year 11 Parent's Evening on the 11th December, where parents and students will have the opportunity to discuss their reports and SMART targets with their subject teachers.

SMART targets are:

SPECIFIC
MEASURABLE
ATTAINABLE
REALISTIC
TIMELY

VINSPIRED

This term, BSFG signed up to the vInspired Schools programme. This allows girls to record all their volunteering, both inside and outside of school, to go towards a recognised certificate.

We want to recognise the time our girls commit, the skills they develop and the difference they make to the school and the wider community through volunteering.

Our vInspired Ambassadors, Nicole Chew, Jumana Malik, Ayesha Khan and Sana Ali (all in Year 11), will be spreading the message to all year groups and helping students log on to the vInspired page on the school's intranet (see careers tab).

As Christmas approaches, girls from Year 11 to 13 will be gaining valuable employability skills by helping to serve Christmas lunches at St Paul's Community Café on the following dates: 3rd, 10th, 12th and 17th December.



TERM DATES

- FROZEN SING-ALONG (THEATRE): **TUE 10 DEC - 3.45PM-5.10PM**
- 6TH FORM CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY: **WED 17TH DEC - 1PM-2.30PM**
- END OF TERM CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES: **FRI 19TH DEC - SCHOOL FINISHES 12.30PM**

SPRING TERM 2015: BEGINS MON 5TH JANUARY - FRI 27TH MARCH

- HALF TERM: **MON 16TH FEBRUARY - FRI 20TH FEBRUARY 2015**
- SPRING HOLIDAY BREAK: **MON 30TH MARCH - FRI 10TH APRIL**
- GOOD FRIDAY: **FRI 3RD APRIL**
- EASTER MONDAY: **MON 6TH APRIL**

SUMMER TERM 2015: MON 13TH APRIL - MON 20TH JULY

- MAY DAY: **MON 4TH MAY**
- HALF TERM: **MON 25TH MAY - FRI 29TH MAY**
- END OF TERM: **FRI 18TH JULY**

CONTACT US

BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
5 BOSTON MANOR ROAD
BRENTFORD
TW8 0PG

TEL: 020 8847 4281 | FAX: 020 8568 2093

WEB: WWW.BRENTFORD.HOUNSLOW.SCH.UK

EMAIL: GENERAL@BRENTFORD.HOUNSLOW.SCH.UK

FACEBOOK: WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BRENTFORDSCHOOLGIRLS

TWITTER: WWW.TWITTER.COM/BRENTFORDSCHOOL