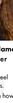
BRENTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL
LEARNING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER

NEWSLETTER

19 June 2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE **HEADTEACHER**



Charlotte Hames
Headteacher

Welcome to this week's edition of our newsletter where you will hear about upcoming events such as our Creative Arts Week, as well as exciting library news, Musician of the Month and information about one of the many enrichment opportunities we offer our students, the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.

This is a period of transition as we head closer to the end of GCSE and A level exams and welcome our new Year 7 intake into school. It has been wonderful to meet the new members of our school community. Thanks to all the staff who met with our new students and parents/carers to help them feel settled, relaxed and excited about beginning their journey with us.

As the weather is getting hotter, please do read our news item on how to keep your child safe in the sun, as well as re-capping our uniform expectations for those who choose to wear the summer polo shirt - no jumpers please.

And finally, we wish our Year 10 students all the best for their internal assessments next week. This is a formal examination period which will support students in developing their independent learning, practising working under exam conditions and in identifying gaps to address in preparation for next year's GCSEs. We look forward to hearing about their successes in the weeks ahead.

UPCOMING **EVENTS**

19 JUNE — YEAR 10 EXAMS BEGIN — **19-23 JUNE**	**20 JUNE** — DEAR (DROP EVERYTHING AND READ) — **ALL DAY**
22 JUNE — YEAR 12 FUTURES DAY — **ALL DAY**	**23 JUNE** — UNIVERSITY FAIR — **ALL DAY**
29 JUNE — AWARDS EVENING — **FROM 7PM**	**30 JUNE** — YEAR 6 INTO YEAR 7 INDUCTION DAY — **ALL DAY**

VIEW FULL CALENDAR | VIEW TERM DATES

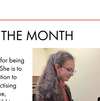
PARENT FORUM: UNDERSTANDING EXAM LEVELS AND PATHWAYS

ALL YEARS

Thanks to all the parents/carers who attended our Parent Forum meeting on **Wednesday, 7 June**.

In response to feedback from our last Parent Forum, this meeting focused on understanding levels, qualifications and pathways to employment.

We were thrilled that Parimal Patel, our Enterprise Coordinator and expert in pathways, delivered this presentation. Feedback from parents was incredibly positive. If you were unable to attend, you can access the presentation **here**.



CREATIVE ARTS WEEK

ALL YEARS

We are delighted to be re-launching Creative Arts Week this year, when we will celebrate and showcase the vast range of visual and performing arts studied at Brenside. We look forward to parents/carers joining us for the celebration on **Tuesday, 11 July from 16:00-19:00**. The evening will include live music, a fashion show and a promenade (walking) performance of an adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet* from 18:00-18:45. As you can see from the photograph, rehearsals are well underway! Please book your free ticket for the Creative Arts Showcase via Eventbrite. Friends at Brentside will be offering light refreshments for donations. They accept card as well as cash payments.

MUSICIAN OF THE MONTH

ALL YEARS

Congratulations to Hessa in 9D for being our first Musician of the Month. She is to be congratulated for her dedication to her piano lessons, including practising during her lunch times. Well done, Hessa! If you would like your child to learn a specific instrument or continue music lessons, please watch out for an email coming soon about peripatetic lessons for September.

NEW INTAKE EVENING

ALL YEARS

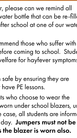
It is always an exciting time of year when we meet our Year 6, soon-to-be Year 7 students at New Intake Evening. Students were eager to tell us about what they loved most about Year 6 and what excited them about starting Brentside in Year 7. We look forward to welcoming our new cohort back on 30 June on their transition day.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

YEARS 9 AND 10

This year more than 50 students from Years 9 and 10 signed up to the challenge of completing the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. Students have been volunteering in school and within the local community, completing additional physical exercise and learning new skills throughout the year.

Students have been completing their expedition training since January and are now fully prepared to navigate themselves on their self-designed, self-sufficient routes with the guidance of the Duke of Edinburgh training team. Over the next few weeks and months, students will complete a practice expedition in Stoke Pages and surrounding areas, then complete the challenge of their assessed expedition in the South Downs. Good luck to all involved! Special thanks to Mr Reynolds and his team for leading on this fantastic opportunity.



SUMMER TIME

ALL YEARS

As we are experiencing very hot weather, please can we remind all students to stay hydrated by carrying a water bottle that can be re-filled before school, during break, lunch and after school at one of our water fountains.

The pollen count is also high, so we recommend those who suffer with hayfever take appropriate medication before coming to school. Students should not be leaving lessons to attend welfare for hayfever symptoms as we are unable to treat these.

Please also help us to keep your children safe by ensuring they are wearing sunscreen, especially when they have PE lessons.

And finally, please can remind all students who choose to wear the summer polo shirts, that these should be worn under school blazers, unless it is exceptionally hot and when this is the case, all students are informed that blazers do not need to be worn that day. **Jumpers must not be worn over summer polo shirts, unless the blazer is worn also. Jumpers never replace the blazer.**

LIBRARY NEWS

ALL YEARS

We are excited to announce the new library webpage @ AccessAll.

Students and staff can now browse the entire school library's collection online at **Brentside High School (access.online)**

Many thanks to our librarians and library monitors for organising the great Bookish Bake Sale on Monday. All cakes and biscuits sold out extremely quickly! All proceeds go to the Book Trust.

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM

ALL YEARS

Many thanks to our Friends!! Brentside PTA who sold second-hand uniform at our New Intake evening.

If you have items of uniform your child has outgrown or no longer needs, we'd be very grateful of donations. Blazers, especially small size blazers, are in high demand!

Please leave any donations, washed and bagged, in reception labelled FF@ donation.

If you are looking to purchase second-hand uniform, please email **hello@friendsofbrentside.org.uk** to check availability.