BRENTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

LEARNING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER

NEWSLETTER

1 March 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE **HEADTEACHER**

Charlotte Hames
Headteacher

As we head into the second half term of Spring, and with National Careers Week just around the corner, the focus is very much on ensuring all students across the school are now using their time as productively as possible to prepare for their futures: developing employability skills, embedding excellent learning habits, coming to lessons on time, fully equipped and ready to learn. We know that embedding these habits early is the key to future success. Students can and should be endeavoring and celebrating these successes in class and beyond in their Achievement Journals.

Year 10 and 12 students are currently preparing for their Mock Interview Day in March where they will be developing their crazy skills and communicating their strengths to employers. This newsletter shares information on how you can get involved in Mock Interview Day and with our wider Careers programme.

For Year 11 and 13 students, the countdown to external exams has begun. Preparing for GCSEs, A levels and BTECs is a busy and pressured time for students. By working in partnership, we aim to relieve students of stress by ensuring they are well planned, organised and prepared. There are links to parent guides in this newsletter in relation to preparing for exams, as well as understanding academic levels and pathways including apprenticeships.

Although external exams may feel like a long way away for some year groups, the time to embed excellent learning habits and prepare for the future is now. Parents/carers value the skills and interests that students develop both in and beyond the classroom. This newsletter shares information about one of the many enrichment activities we offer at Brentside.

Ms Hames

UPCOMING **EVENTS**

7 MAR
YR8 OPTIONS EVENING
BETWEEN 6.30PM - 8.30PM

13 MAR
PARENT FORUM
BETWEEN 6.30PM - 7.30PM

13 MAR
FRIENDS AT BRENTSIDE PTA
BETWEEN 7.30PM - 8.30PM

19 MAR
EARLY CLOSURE
CLOSING AT 1:35PM

21 MAR
YR8 PARENTS' EVENING
BETWEEN 4.30PM - 7.30PM

25 MAR
SCHOOL PRODUCTION (EVENING)
TIME TBC

VIEW FULL CALENDAR | VIEW TERM DATES

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

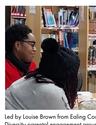
2024

POSTPONED: Monday, 26 February 2024- Alumni Launch event for all past students and staff 18-30-20-30 has been postponed until the summer term

Thursday, 29 February 2024	Y7 Parents' Evening
Thursday, 8 March 2024	Y8 Options Evening
Wednesday, 13 March 2024	Parent Forum 18.30-19.30 followed by Friends at Brentside PTA AGM meeting 19.30-20.30 in the library. All welcome.
Tuesday, 19 March 2024	Early closure (13:25)
Thursday, 23 March	Y8 Parents' Evening
Monday, 25 March	Blood Brothers- School production
Tuesday, 26 March	Blood Brothers- School production
Wednesday, 27 March	Target Review Day & Y10 and 12 Mock Interview Day
Thursday, 28 March	Applied Learning Day

EALING RACE EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY PARENT MEETING

ALL YEARS



Led by Louise Brown from Ealing Council, the Ealing Race, Equality and Diversity parental engagement group met last Wednesday, 21 February. They explored how they could work collaboratively with the school and local authority to ensure the Ealing Equality Action Plan is successfully implemented. In doing so, they were working to further the academic success of students from all races, using data over time to recognise trends and implement action for change.

These meetings will continue to take place at Brentside High School half termly and are open to all. We particularly welcome parents/carers of black heritage students. For further information, please contact Ms Nagra on **a.nagra@brentsidehigh.ealing.sch.uk**. Details of future meetings will be shared in the next newsletter.

LOVE AT FIRST LINE IN THE LIBRARY

ALL YEARS

Our fantastic librarians are always finding new ways to ensure our students love reading. With the help of our Sixth Form students, they celebrated Valentine's Day by launching a massively popular 'Love at First Line' event where staff and students got to unwrap surprise parcels and see if the first line of a book could make them fall head over heels in love with reading!

Just genius. What is there not to love?

PREPARATION FOR EXAMS

YEAR 11

With the first written GCSE exam starting on Tuesday, 7 May, now is the time to ensure all Year 11 students are making the most of every opportunity to prepare for their upcoming exams.

During the February half term break, we ran a number of GCSE revision sessions across a range of subjects. In addition, we were very pleased with student attendance at last Saturday's maths and English revision sessions.

Year 11 students will complete Spring assessments from Wednesday, 28 February to Monday, 4 March to allow them to further practice under formal exam conditions, identify strengths and close gaps. You can access the timetable for P and S slide **here** and for Q slide **here**.

Please do check Satchel One daily to support your child with organising their time, completing all homework and revision tasks set and attending targeted interventions to ensure their success.

For further advice on how you can support your child with exam preparation, please refer to What to Expect and How to Support Your Teen.

Parent & carer guide to GCSEs: What to expect and how to support your teen (oxfordrevise.com)

AUTHOR VISITS BRENTSIDE

YEAR 10

D.E.A.L is our Drop Everything and Read activity to foster a love of reading and develop literacy skills.

World Book Day
Thursday 7 March 2024

Moses Mckenzie
An Olive Grove in India

For DEAL all Year 10 pupils will receive a copy of the book, 'An Olive Grove in India'.

Moses will be visiting Brentside for a Q&A, a book signing and to meet some lucky Year 10s in the Library on Thursday 7 March.

Five pupils from each form will be selected based on merits and good behaviour by their Year Teams.

CAREERS AT BRENTSIDE
HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED? WHERE CAN YOU GET HELP?

ALL YEARS

Can you spare some time?

We are always looking to expand our careers programme and our database of employers who can support with delivering this to all year groups.

As a parent/carer, you can help us by talking with students about your job, your job history, pathways into your job, skills and qualifications needed for your role.

You can do this in a number of ways:

- Delivering an assembly (08:45-09:05)
- Delivering a workshop (one hour)
- Delivering an after-school careers talk (15:30-16:30)
- Conducting Mock Interviews on Mock Interview Day (Thursday, 28 March). These run all day, but employers can offer as much or as little time as they can.

For further information, please contact our careers leader, Ms Rosenblatt on **m.rosenblatt@brentsidehigh.ealing.sch.uk**

Seeking support?

For free advice, information and guidance on a range of topics that support conversations with your child about their future, do check out the Parents' Guide.

Parents homepage | The Parents' Guide (theparentsguideto.co.uk)

PERSONAL SOCIAL HEALTH EDUCATION (P.S.H.E.) PRODUCTION AND WORKSHOP

YEAR 10

As part of their P.S.H.E. programme, Year 10 students watched a production of Followers by Synergy Theatre Company, exploring themes of friendship, misogyny and the power of social media to impact lives.

This was followed by a workshop for thirty GCSE drama students who really engaged in the play in greater depth, devising a new scene to show what may happen to the characters in the future as a result of their actions and the actions of others.

BOYS' COOKING CLUB

YEAR 7

There really is a club for everyone at Brentside High School. Last week saw the first of a six-week Boys' Cooking Club and the results are mouthwatering!

Do check out the range of clubs we have on offer and remind your son/daughter to record all their **enrichment and extra-curricular activities** in their Achievement Journals!