

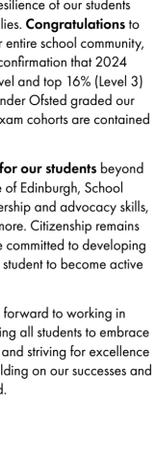
NEWSLETTER

27 October 2025

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers,

At the end of the first half term of the academic year, we **welcome** our new families to the Brentside High School newsletter and welcome back our existing families. The first half term is always a busy one as we all set down our aspirations and build the foundations of our future successes and as ever, we thank you for mirroring this at home.



Charlotte Hames
Headteacher

We are **immensely proud of the achievements of our GCSE, BTEC and A Level students** this summer. We are thrilled to announce that last week Brentside High School was awarded the prestigious **ALPS Platinum Award** for outstanding progress at A Level. This places Brentside within the **top 10% of schools and colleges nationally**. This remarkable achievement is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and resilience of our students and staff, and the unwavering support of our families. **Congratulations** to everyone involved. This is a proud moment for our entire school community, building on last year's Department for Education confirmation that 2024 results were in the top 15% in the country for A Level and top 16% (Level 3) and 5% (Level 2) nationally for BTECs. It is no wonder Ofsted graded our Sixth Form as outstanding! Further details of our exam cohorts are contained within this newsletter so please read on!

This half term has seen a range of **opportunities for our students** beyond the classroom, from Geography field trips to Duke of Edinburgh, School Cabinet interviews developing our students' leadership and advocacy skills, to trips to the Houses of Parliament and so much more. Citizenship remains a core value at Brentside High School and we are committed to developing our students' cultural capital and preparing every student to become active members of our wider community.

As we continue through the Autumn term, we look forward to working in partnership with all parents and carers, encouraging all students to embrace the opportunities ahead, supporting one another, and striving for excellence in all they do. We are also looking forward to building on our successes and moving from strength to strength in the year ahead.

Ms Hames

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

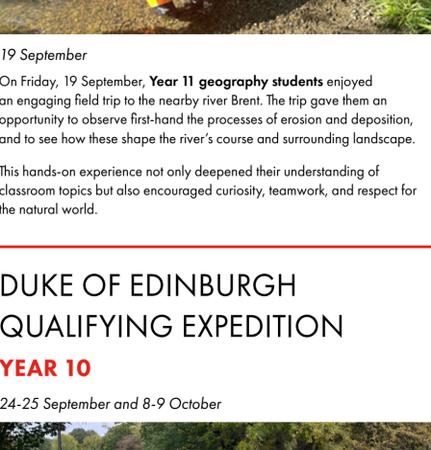


- AUTUMN TERM**
- Monday, 3 November:** INSET day
 - Tuesday, 4 November:** Year 10 internal assessments begin
 - Monday, 10 November:** Year 10 internal assessments end
 - Tuesday, 25 November:** Parent Forum: 18:00-19:00 (all welcome) - library (*Please note change of date)
 - Tuesday, 25 November:** Race Equality Forum: 18:00-19:00 - library
 - Thursday, 27 November:** Target Setting Day
 - Friday, 28 November:** INSET day
 - Monday, 8 December:** Year 11 Mock Examinations start
 - Thursday, 11 December:** Year 10 Parents' Evening 16:30-19:30 (online)
 - Thursday, 18 December:** Year 11 Mock Examinations End
 - Thursday, 18 December:** Applied Learning Day
 - Friday, 19 December:** Last Day of Term (early finish)

Please see our website for more detailed information.

ALPS PLATINUM AWARD FOR A LEVEL PROGRESS IN TOP 10% OF SCHOOLS NATIONALLY FOR 2025

ALL YEARS



Our Sixth Form consistently achieves high levels of progress. In 2024 our progress for A Levels placed us in the top 15% nationally and BTEC courses placed us in the top 16% (Level 3) and top 5% (Level 2) nationally for progress. This year we received the **ALPS Platinum Award for A Level progress which places us in the top 10% of schools nationally** and our **BTEC courses will be ranked even higher**. We await confirmation of final percentages from the Department for Education which will come in the Spring term. Well done to all students, families and the staff who supported our Sixth Formers to these fantastic achievements. We have a large and inclusive Sixth Form and this level of achievement is outstanding!



For details of our **GCSE, BTEC and A Level** results, please see the press releases on our website where we celebrate achievement at both **Year 11** and **Year 13**: [D* is BTEC distinction star and D is distinction]

Exam Results Press Release

WE'RE PLATINUM!

Within **TOP 10%** Nationally

"Your 2025 exam results place you in the top 10% of schools and colleges for value-added progress! This is an outstanding accomplishment, and a reflection of your exceptional dedication and hard work."

ALPS, October 2025

A Level - Platinum Award
Top 10%
2025

BARCLAYS BANK FINANCE WORKSHOP

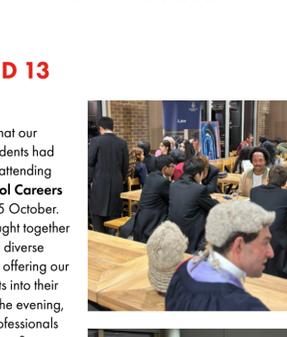
YEAR 12

10 September

Year 12 Business Studies students had the opportunity to meet two local specialists from Barclays Bank, Alice and James. They shared their personal career journeys, future aspirations, and insights into working in the banking sector. Their stories were inspiring and helped students understand the variety of roles and progression opportunities within the financial industry.



The workshop introduced students to **Digital Wings**, a Barclays platform designed to help individuals develop essential digital and financial skills.



Through this website, students explored learning modules that taught them how to take control of their personal finances, improve their budgeting skills, and understand the importance of financial planning.

Students found the workshop incredibly impactful: "The session was interactive and informative, and we gained a range of practical skills that will be useful both personally and for our unit 3 business exam in January. It also highlighted the importance of continuous learning and adaptability in today's digital economy."

Thanks to Mr Uddin for giving students this opportunity to work with employers to develop their financial knowledge and skills.

GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

YEAR 11



19 September

On Friday, 19 September, **Year 11 geography students** enjoyed an engaging field trip to the nearby river Brent. The trip gave them an opportunity to observe first-hand the processes of erosion and deposition, and to see how these shape the river's course and surrounding landscape.

This hands-on experience not only deepened their understanding of classroom topics but also encouraged curiosity, teamwork, and respect for the natural world.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH QUALIFYING EXPEDITION

YEAR 10

24-25 September and 8-9 October



Well done to our **Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh** students who completed their qualifying expedition in the Chiltern Hills. What a fantastic way to develop teamwork, resilience, decision making, leadership and so many more transferable skills vital for the workplace.

Thanks to Mr Reynolds who has led the Duke of Edinburgh training for many years. He is now officially hanging up his boots, and we look forward to announcing his successor in the next newsletter.

BRENTSIDE TAKES ACTION TO TACKLE ELECTRONIC WASTE

ALL YEARS

25 September

Read the article from Ealing News news below to learn all about our Electronic Waste collection!

Brentside High School in Hanwell is playing its part in supporting Ealing Council's drive to tackle electronic waste, with students and local residents recently uniting to recycle unwanted gadgets and appliances.

In a community-wide effort, donations ranged from laptops and mobile phones to redundant kitchen appliances, all destined for recycling rather than landfill.

Teachers at Brentside praised the enthusiasm of students and families, noting the initiative not only decluttered homes but also raised awareness of the impact e-waste has on the planet.

For students, the initiative also served as an educational opportunity. Mira (Year 13) said the experience had left a lasting impression: "The whole experience was informative and through it I learnt even more about the importance of recycling e-waste as it protects our environment."

We are delighted to develop active citizens who understand the importance of sustainability and protecting our environment.

Thanks to Mr Johnson who led on this initiative.

NEW BEGINNINGS...

YEAR 7

Well done to all our Year 7 students who have settled in so well to Brentside High School. We are really impressed with how students have made the transition from primary to secondary school, demonstrating excellent attitude to learning and taking up many of the opportunities available to them.

Thank you to **Amaya** in 7E for sharing her experience of life as a Brentside Year 7 student:

"Starting at Brentside has been really exciting because I have already made lots of new friends. The teachers are really nice and very helpful when you need support in lessons. Everybody has been really welcoming and it already feels like I belong here."

SCHOOL CABINET INTERVIEWS

ALL YEARS

2 October

Well done to **all students who applied to be a member of the School Cabinet**.

In order to take on this leadership position, students were required to complete an application form, have a successful reference from their year team and complete an interview process led by the students currently in the School Cabinet.

Well done to Charlotte 7S, Laiti 7E, Amarnath 7I and Kyle 7I who have now taken on this important position of responsibility, developing their team, communication and leadership skills.

#Leaders of the future!



CAREERS CONVENTION- PARTNERSHIP WITH HARROW SCHOOL

YEARS 12 AND 13

5 October

We are thrilled to report that our **Year 12 and Year 13** students had an incredible experience attending the annual **Harrow School Careers Convention** on Sunday, 5 October. This prestigious event brought together top representatives from a diverse range of over 40 careers, offering our students invaluable insights into their future pathways. During the evening, students engaged with professionals from various fields, including finance, law, healthcare, technology, creative media, and many more. This unique opportunity allowed them to ask questions, seek advice, and gain a deeper understanding of the skills and qualifications needed for their chosen careers.



We are proud of our students for taking the initiative, as part of our partnership with Harrow School, to explore their career options and look forward to seeing how these connections will shape their future endeavours.

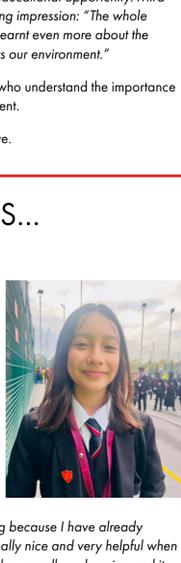


AWARENESS RAISING AND FUND RAISING

YEARS 12 AND 13

8 October and 10 October

This month, our Sixth Form dressed in Pink on Wednesday, 8 October for Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Yellow on Friday, 10 October for Mental Health Awareness day. They raised money for two vital charities - Breast Cancer Now and Young Minds.



The Sixth Form Committee have also been raising awareness of Black History Month, by helping to create some inspirational and informative displays of Black scientists, creatives, entrepreneurs, politicians and activists, in the Sixth Form Study area.



And in honour of Halloween, the Sixth Form committee have also been selling spooky-boo lollipops over the last couple of weeks to raise money for the Year 13 Prom later this year.

Well done to the Sixth Form students who have been taking action to raise awareness of key issues and raising funds for important charities.

BUSINESS MENTORING- BERENBERG JOURNEY

YEAR 13

Huge well done to Ellis, Shaan, Yaseen and Pawel in Year 13 who have been successful in securing a place on the Berenberg Journey mentoring scheme through Vision Path.



This offers students the opportunity to work with employers to develop their knowledge of the world of work, and skills to prepare them for the workplace.



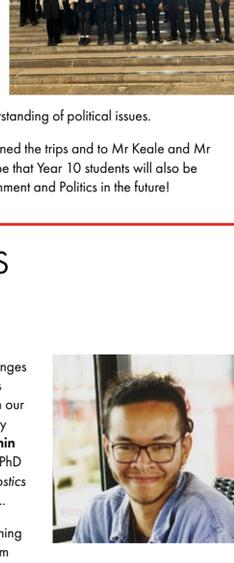
Our business department continues to deepen partnerships with the world of industry to ensure our Sixth Form students are confident and ready for their next steps.

HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT TRIP

YEARS 10 AND 12

16 October and 20 October

Learning about **democracy** in the classroom is crucial in preparing students for their adult lives as active members of our community. Being able to see democracy in action in the **Houses of Parliament** is particularly special, as it enables students to link their learning in class to the real world.



Year 10 citizenship students teamed up with **Year 12** government and politics students to visit the Houses of Parliament, giving them a rare opportunity to talk to MPs en-route to Prime Minister's Question Time and deepen their knowledge and understanding of political issues.

Many thanks to Ms Giles who planned the trips and to Mr Keale and Mr Kamoga who led the trips. We hope that Year 10 students will also be inspired to consider A Level Government and Politics in the future!

ALUMNI NEWS

ALL YEARS

Benjamin Wilson

Brentside's mission statement challenges all to become lifelong learners. It is always a real pleasure to hear from our alumni students. We were especially thrilled to hear that **alumni Benjamin Wilson** is nearing completion of a PhD researching AI for Medical Diagnostics and Care at the University of Leeds.



We look forward to Benjamin returning as a Doctor to share his journey from Brentside to PHD graduate!

CAREERS AT CHANNEL 4

YEARS 9, 10, 11, 12 AND 13

14 October

Media studies students in Years 9, 10 and 11 had the incredible opportunity to participate in a workshop led by **Channel 4's Talent and Inspiration Manager, Emily Doherty**. This was followed by a Question and Answer panel for Years 9, 10, 12 and 13 media studies students.

Year 11 students were also treated to an assembly by Channel 4 to learn about the ranges of careers they offer, and the skills needed to succeed in this industry.

Emily wrote on LinkedIn: "I was blown away by the students' confidence in their ideas."

Thank you to Ms Carpenter for linking careers to the media studies curriculum and giving so many students such an invaluable opportunity.

