



1 May 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Welcome Back and Updates

I hope you and your families had an enjoyable and restful Easter break.

I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome all Year 8 students back to school as we begin the summer term. This is a vital period in the academic year; having firmly established themselves in the school community, students are now building the academic stamina and independence needed as they move toward the end of Key Stage 3. It is a time for them to consolidate their learning and prepare for the increased responsibilities of Year 9.

Staffing update

As we embark on this busy term, I would also like to share some news regarding our staff. Mrs Vara, the Year 8 Student and Family Education (SAFE) Worker will soon be departing for her maternity leave. We wish her the very best during this exciting time and look forward to hearing news of her new arrival. In her absence, we are pleased to welcome Mr Ford, who will be stepping in to support the students and ensure a smooth transition through the remainder of this period.

Celebrating excellent attendance

I would also like to take a moment to commend our Year 8 students for their fantastic commitment to school so far. Attendance across the year group has been brilliant, and it is wonderful to see so many students arriving each day ready to learn.

As we enter this final stretch of the year, it is vital that we keep this momentum going and maintain these high attendance levels. Being in school every day is the single most important factor in ensuring students feel confident and prepared, especially with the upcoming exam week and the exciting end-of-term activities ahead.

Reflecting on success

It was a pleasure to see so many of you at our recent Target Review Day at the end of the spring term. The conversations between students, parents/carers, and form tutors were incredibly powerful. It is inspiring to see our students engaging so maturely with their feedback, and I am excited to see them put these goals into action.

Our recent Applied Learning Day was another highlight. Year 8 fully immersed themselves in their sessions, showing great curiosity and developing their critical thinking skills through hands-on activities. Additionally, I would like to extend a huge well done to the small group of Year 8 students who recently represented the school at Voice in a Million. They performed brilliantly and were excellent ambassadors for our school community.

Key dates and examination preparation

As we move into this half-term, there are several key events taking place, most notably the Year 8 examination week, which begins on Monday, 18 May. Alongside our academic assessments, students will also be participating in Applied Learning Day, International Market Day, and our annual Sports Day, providing a fantastic balance of practical skills, culture, and physical activity.

To ensure students are making the most of these opportunities, reports week will follow shortly after, giving us a chance to reflect on their progress and achievements during this busy term.

We are supporting students in school to ensure they feel prepared and confident. To help your child succeed, please ensure they have:

- **Full equipment:** pens, pencils, rulers, and scientific calculators.
- **Revision resources:** curriculum overviews and useful links are available on the school website and via ClassCharts.
- **Homework club:** Available every day except Mondays for those seeking a quiet space or extra support.

Summer activities and enrichment

Later in the term, students can look forward to another Applied Learning Day on Friday, 10 July with Sports Day being held on Tuesday, 14 July as well as the much-anticipated International Market Day on Monday, 20 July.

Our extracurricular sports schedule is also changing for the season:

- **Cricket club:** Boys
- **Rounders club:** Girls
- **Athletics club:** Open to everyone

Please encourage your child to speak to the PE department for more information on how to get involved!

Looking ahead

We will finish the year by celebrating students who have shown outstanding achievement and attitude to learning throughout the year at our Awards Evening on Thursday, 2 July as well as an exciting rewards trip with more information to follow.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping our Year 8 students achieve their full potential.

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me by emailing z.chelh@brentsidehigh.ealing.sch.uk

Yours faithfully,



Mr Chelh
Year Leader for Year 8