

Thursday, 22 July 2021



**BRENTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL**

LEARNING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER

Email: [info@brentsidehigh.ealing.sch.uk](mailto:info@brentsidehigh.ealing.sch.uk)

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Dear Student, Parent or Carer,

As we reach the end of the school year, it is right to reflect on the achievements of the year that has ended. It is impossible to do so without referencing COVID 19, and our students and our staff have all worked hard together to reduce risk, adapting to changes in our day structure, our use of the school site, and our implementation of a range of hygiene measures. The resilience, positivity and adaptability of our school community has been second to none. Working together, we have achieved so much, and my thanks go to all members of our school community for this.

I would also like to commend our young people for all that they have achieved academically and practically this year. You will recently have received your child's end of year report. This year, more than ever, is a step on the journey to success and not the end point. So many students have achieved a huge number of merits and praise comments and we know you will celebrate every one of these at home. A great many students have achieved good and outstanding progress and attainment scores, but we know that this has been a challenging year of interrupted learning and we have used our internal assessments to help us to identify where students need further support in specific areas of their subjects when we return in September. Those of our students with attitude to learning scores of 4 and 5 are doing their absolute best, and this is exactly what is needed to continue to make good progress. If your child has room to improve their attitude to learning scores, please do discuss this with them to help them to come back in September ready to learn.

This year we have missed many of our extra-curricular opportunities and trips, but as soon as the rules allowed, our sports clubs before and after school were up and running. Students have responded really well to these opportunities and their enthusiasm was captured brilliantly by our whole school, new-look Sports Day on Tuesday 13 July. Monday night saw the greatest downpour of rain I think we have seen this year, and left us apprehensive over whether the field might be flooded. Early Tuesday morning, the PE staff team were to be found checking the surfaces and then, to all of our relief, setting up the main areas of competition. These included: traditional sports day activities, such as egg and spoon and sack races; dodgeball; basketball and athletics, including throwing events and sprint races. Students competed in tutor groups rather than house colours, so that bubbles could be kept separate, and groups of students were accompanied by their tutor or attached staff as they worked their way around the activities. The atmosphere was full of fun and team spirit; it was fantastic to see all year groups throwing themselves into the activities and even some of the

teachers could not resist the egg and spoon race! Rumours of Year 10's victory over the staff team are much exaggerated... It was a wonderful end to what has been an extraordinary year, and it characterised so well what our school community does best; working together to make a difference and to achieve our best.

The competition was varied and at times fierce!



For our Year 11 and Year 13 students (and those on a one-year Year 12 course) we look forward to seeing you on results days and to enrolling our Year 11 students on their post-16 courses. So many of you attended Sixth Form Taster Sessions in a range of subjects and told us how helpful you found them in making your course decisions. We look forward to welcoming you in September as part of our large and successful Sixth Form, which prior to COVID saw results twice in the top 2% in the country for student progress in recent years. We look forward to you becoming a part of our continued success. For those of you in Year 13 we look forward to celebrating your successes with you on results day where you will find staff ready to offer information, advice and guidance on any choices you need to make.

It is always sad to say farewell to much valued and hardworking colleagues. This summer the following teaching staff are moving on to promotions or relocating: Ms Audouin (Drama), Mr Danso (Mathematics), Ms Imlahi (English), Ms Kalan (English), Mr Luke (MFL), Ms MacInnes (Deputy Headteacher), Ms Melchizedek (Science), Ms Miah (English), Mr Patel (Science), Ms Rocque (Media), Mr Roddy (Art), Mr Scrimshaw (MFL), Ms Tantram (Drama) and Ms Vajaria (Mathematics).

We also say goodbye to Mr Ali (Cover Supervisor), Miss Colgan (Safe Worker) and Ms German (Learning Support Assistant).

I wish all colleagues who are moving on all the very best for the future and would like to thank them wholeheartedly for their contributions during their time at Brentside.

We have also had great sadness in the recent loss of Mr Andrew Busigu. Mr Busigu joined Brentside in 2015 and left in 2018 for promotion, having begun his teaching career with us. He was endlessly positive, calm and cheerful; a gentle man who believed in the potential of all young people and who brought joy to those with whom he worked. We thank you for the messages that you have sent in to [condolencesabu@brentsidehigh.ealing.sch.uk](mailto:condolencesabu@brentsidehigh.ealing.sch.uk) which will be passed on to Mr Busigu's family. You can find a fuller message of tribute on our website. Today those staff who worked with Mr Busigu are wearing bright clothes in celebration of his life and in memory of his Friday shirts.

Finally, as we look forward to September and new starts, we are keen to welcome our new Year 7 students, many of whom are joining us first for a week of Summer School.

We are also working to put into place the guidance from the government around testing (with consent) and control measures on our return to school. In line with last week's announcement, there will be a staggered return to school, and we will email you and publish on the website which year groups will attend when for testing and induction prior to starting lessons. We will also post any responses to national changes should they occur during the break.

We wish you all a restful, healthy and well-deserved break and as always, we thank our students, parents and carer for your work and support this year. My thanks also all of our behalf to our staff team for their support, teaching, guidance and care.

Yours sincerely,

**Ms Charlotte Hames**  
Headteacher

### Year 7

Year 7 have had a fantastic end to the year. At the start of this term we celebrated the winners of a writing competition in which students were asked to write poems or short stories on the theme of superpowers. The year team were overwhelmed with the high standard of the entries and winners and runners up were awarded with certificates and VIP lunch passes.

Towards the end of term, Year 7 took part in Sports Day. We were incredibly impressed by their enthusiasm, energy and their team spirit. We clearly have some very talented athletes in Year 7, but possibly more importantly a group who are keen and eager to persevere and do their best. It was an absolute joy to see them having so much fun. We cannot wait to see them back at school in September and we wish them a safe and restful summer break.

### Year 8

It has been a fantastic end to the year, full of extra-curricular activities, a football tournament and our Sports Day. The Brentside Euros did not quite finish the same way as the professionals, but likewise football did not find its way home to England.

**The winners in Year 8H, (France)**, were worthy winners and a big bravo to them. Sports Day saw many competing for house points in their traditional colours of red, green, yellow and blue. The primary school activities were fun, where even myself, the Head of Year, took part in the egg and spoon race, the sack race and fell head first in the obstacle course section, which gave the students the opportunity to cheer even more! The team activities and track and field saw fierce competitions between the athletes and it was great to see so many determined to win, but also cheer each other on.

Sports Day was a fantastic way to finish the term, all smiles and happy teams. I would like to congratulate all of Year 8 for being brilliant, resilient learners over this last year and demonstrating how flexible we can be.

### Artists of the Month (Years 7 and 8)

**Congratulations to our May 2021 winners!**

#### Year 7:

- 1st: **Dheya Year 7R**
- 2nd: **Connor Year 7D**
- 3rd: **Shenola Year 7S**

#### Year 8:

- 1st: **Sarah Year 8T**
- 2nd: **Elissa Year 8G**
- 3rd: **Krishmit Year 8R**

#### And a special mention to:

- **Jessica Year 7D**
- **De'Angelo Year 8N**



**Year 7**  
**Dheya**  
Painting



**Year 7**  
**Connor**  
Drawing



**Year 8**  
**Elissa**  
Colour Pencil



**Year 7**  
**Shenola**  
Digital



**Year 8**  
**Krishmit**  
Digital

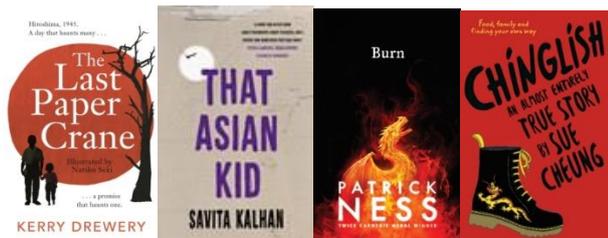


**Year 8**  
**Sarah**  
Photography

### Year 9

As we come to the end of our time in Year 9, we take a moment to reflect on the huge achievements made by our students throughout this last term and the year. Year 9 have fully embraced the first year of their Key Stage 4 courses, despite the interruptions of lockdown. Their resilience, tenacity and can-do attitude have supported them in making the best of all the learning opportunities during this year, whether these have been in the classroom or through virtual learning. In our visits to lessons we have been so impressed by the inquisitive, creative and accomplished learners that are our Year 9 students. As we have gone through this last term we have been delighted and proud of how our Year 9 have matured as young people. It is with determination, a positive mindset and team spirit that our students have paved the way for future success. We know they will return in September with continued resolve to ensure we see even more wonderful achievements. We thank you Year 9 for all your hard work and commitment this year and wish you and your families a safe and happy summer holiday.

**English/Library activity**  
**Ealing Teen Read 2021 Final**



Year 9 book group students were eager to hear the winner of this year's Ealing Teen Read.

The group had read six books and voted for their favourite. Special mention should go to **Judy in Year 9R, Romy 9H, Jewel 9B, Alina 9R and Pukalmathy 9H**, who read the books and met regularly in the library after school to discuss them. Students were invited to a virtual talk by the author, film maker and mountaineer, Matt Dickinson who was to announce the winner.

They were delighted to hear Matt announce that their favourite book, *The Last Paper Crane* by Kerry Drewery, was voted most popular by Ealing Secondary School book groups. *That Asian Kid* and *Burn* tied for second place; third was *Chinglish*. Everyone agreed that the Ealing Teen Read was a great activity, introducing readers to a diverse range of stories and authors they may not otherwise have read.

**Saskia in Year 9 continues her outstanding golfing performance**



With some persuasion, we managed to get Saskia to share with us the facts around her latest tournament. Saskia is an exceptionally talented young golfer, with a bright future ahead of her. For those with a knowledge of golf, the following stats are sure to impress. For those without such knowledge, we can all join in being proud of one of our school community.

Competition: Faldo series U16 championship  
 Date: Mon 12 -Tues 13 July 2021  
 Golf course: Welwyn Garden City GC  
 Handicap: 4.0  
 This is a national competition, so it was also played in Scotland.

There were 375 junior golfers; 282 boys and 93 girls U21 & U16. I am 13 years old, so I was proud to be invited to play in this competition. In round 1 I shot 78 (6 over) and on the 2nd round I shot 77 (5 over) par 72.

On the second day I missed the cut by one shot which if I had made, I would have played on the 3rd day at Bocket Hall (The Melbourne course) but overall, I was really pleased.

I finished on the second day 15th place out of 42 girls and I

learnt a lot from the experience; it has pushed me on to try even harder in the future.

Saskia's ongoing performance has been reported in the press and we are proud of her commitment, dedication and skill. Well done Saskia!

**Year 10**

Year 10 are to be congratulated on their resilience and perseverance over this year. As we know, it has been a real challenge for them as independent learners to organise their online learning, motivate themselves and learn to use new resources over the last year. They entered their Year 10 exams with maturity and a determination to do well. As I have read all their school reports it has been lovely to see how their hard work, targeted revision and good use of resources have resulted in pleasing results. Many students have achieved their Minimum Target Grades or above in most subjects as a result for which they deserve congratulations. There is still work to be done as we enter Year 11, and these exams have identified areas which we will work on next year. I was really pleased to see students attending after school revision classes as well as the Sports Clubs on offer as it is important to develop further skills outside of lessons. I would encourage all students to make full use of these next year. Year 10 has come to an end, and I am proud of how you have embraced the challenges it brought and come out stronger as a result. I hope you all have a good rest this summer, read widely and come back ready to continue to make excellent progress as we head into the final stretch of GCSE.



**St John's Pre-GCSE Inspire Programme: Mathematical Modelling in Sport**

We are pleased to share this good news with the BHS Team. One of our Inspire students wins another competition, Hoorah!

**Jalil Year 10H**, won a Maths Inter Borough competition last month. The competition was between Ealing and Harrow borough schools and was based on Mathematical modelling.

**Sixth Form**  
**Level 3, Year 12 students**

Year 12 students are continuing to work hard in their lessons. Their Summer Examinations took place in June and most of our students were able to demonstrate their excellent progress and are well on the way to achieving their aspirational targets next year. This was particularly important since these exams are used, in conjunction with teacher assessment, to determine their predicted grades for their applications.

We were pleased to be able to hold our annual Futures Day in June, which is when students are supported to begin their UCAS applications. They attended talks and workshops designed to support their understanding of what a high-quality application looks like. **Roshni Year 12E**, commented that, "I found the day very helpful; it gave me insight into the UCAS process and the potential careers that I will be able to apply for." **Klimentina Year 12R** stated, "I particularly enjoyed the presentation by Jim Colley on how to write a personal statement and I also appreciated the guidance I received from my teachers in the workshops afterwards". This process will continue in September when students are expected to bring the first

draft of their Personal Statement and to have completed most of their application form for the first day back in school.

Students have been very pro-active in applying for virtual work experience and summer schools to enhance their applications and to gain experience. Examples include:

- the UCAS run Steps to Success Summer Programme
- UpSkillMe organised events such as work experience centred on big technology-based companies (sponsored by Amazon and Google)
- Work experience with Santander on finance
- Work experience with BT on the telecommunications industries
- Work experience with the Brighton and Sussex Medical School
- Imperial College organised a week-long series of workshops and virtual research which culminated in students giving presentations to each other and representatives from Imperial

A work experience opportunity that deserves a special mention, involves seven students from the art department. They entered a competition, organised by the international advertising agency Dentsu, called the Rise Up Challenge. Four out of eleven of the finalists selected are Brentside students – part of their prize was a place on the Dentsu work experience programme. A further three students were also offered a place after being highly commended by the judges. In addition, **Freddie Year 12B**, was awarded a special prize in the Creative Ideas Category. He stated that “the competition was an invaluable experience and I am looking forward to learning more about advertising during my work experience”. This is a remarkable achievement from our highly talented students and we congratulate them and all the others who have secured prestigious placements this year.

We wish all our Sixth Form students a happy and safe summer with their families and look forward to celebrating their achievements in the new academic year in September.

# The Guardian

For 200 years

### The Guardian interview – Year 12 student

Our very own **Sara Year 12S**, was interviewed by The Guardian on her opinion on the performance of our prime minister. Please see below for the link, where she has been directly quoted, and there's even a photo of her!

**Link:**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2021/apr/25/word-on-the-street-in-uxbridge-shows-disdain-for-downing-st-antics>

### School Cabinet

The School Cabinet have continued to meet on Teams this half term and have discussed a host of issues ranging from what they've enjoyed most about the school year to areas they'd like to change. Cabinet members raised the issue of polo shirts and asked if students could wear long sleeves under the summer polo top for religious reasons. They

were very pleased when the uniform rule was modified to support this. We look forward to September when we hope to meet face to face again, and for some students, for the first time.



### Friends at Brentside (F@B)

This half term saw the launch of The Big Raffle when all parents/carers, governors and staff had the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets on line. This is the first time we have worked with Parent Kind to run such a raffle and were

delighted that this raised £351 for the school. Thanks to everyone who bought raffle tickets and contributed to this fund raising event.

We are also very excited to be offering all parents/carers, governors and teachers the opportunity to take part in the 50-50 club from the Autumn Term. This club runs for 10 months in the year and costs £20 to join. Each month a name will be selected at random and the lucky winner will take home half of the total money in the scheme, so the more people who take part, the greater the prize money. The remaining money will go to F@B to support the students at Brentside. We'll be sending further details via email about how to join the scheme early in the Autumn term.

Thank you to those parents who completed the F@B survey and expressed an interest in supporting future fund raising events. If you didn't complete the survey but are interested in supporting F@B, please email [hello@friendsatbrentside.org.uk](mailto:hello@friendsatbrentside.org.uk). We really appreciate any support you can offer, whether it's for half an hour, an evening or more.

We look forward to meeting parents face to face next academic year.

F@B meetings take place directly after the Parent Forum once a term. Please check the school calendar and future emails for details of next year's meetings and we hope to see you then.

And for those of you who use social media, please do follow us on Facebook!

### Careers

We have been delighted to offer out Sixth Form students a range of high calibre virtual work experience and employer engagement opportunities, despite Covid restrictions. Students have had the opportunity to participate in a number of webinars and workshops run by a range of providers from a variety of job sectors including engineering, business and human resources to name a few. We are also delighted that our A level graphics students not only took part in a design competition run by one of our longstanding business partners, Dentsu Global, but also won this competition. Their prize was to take part in an online work experience giving them insight into the running of an international marketing company. Congratulations to Adam, Klementina, Karolina and Freddie. We are also very pleased to offer Year 11-13 students the opportunity to participate in a 20 day paid work experience placement over the summer break with another of our business partners, BBVs JV. Successful applicants not only earn while they learn on their placement, but those who demonstrate the greatest employability skills also have the opportunity to be considered for an apprenticeship with the company. We

are very proud of our diverse range of business partnerships and the wonderful opportunities they provide for our students in helping them prepare for their next steps.

## Coronavirus

### Asymptomatic testing

Over the summer, students should continue to test regularly if they are attending school. This will be important for students attending school to collect results and to enrol for a place in the sixth form. Home test kits are widely available from local pharmacies or they can be ordered online.

As students will potentially mix with lots of other people during the summer holidays, all students will receive 2 on-site lateral flow device tests, 3 to 5 days apart, on their return to school in the autumn term. Specific appointment times will be communicated with parents and carers separately.

For students who are new to the school, or previously haven't given consent to take part in asymptomatic testing on site, we will be contacting these parents/carers via email. For continuing students who wish to change their consent status, they can do so by completing the Survey Monkey at the link below to indicate their preference.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/bhs-covid-testing-students>

### Symptoms and action

The most important symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Students or staff with symptoms of Coronavirus must isolate and book a PCR test as soon as possible.

### Confirmatory PCR tests

Staff and students with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the [stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#). They will also need to [get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19](#).

### Testing and contact tracing:

From now, schools will no longer be **contact tracing** to identify contacts of people who test positive for Coronavirus. Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace.

From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to **self-isolate** if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.

### The future

It is important to remember that no vaccine is 100% effective and, like all viruses, COVID-19 can mutate.

As national restrictions are lifted the government has told us that there will sadly be more cases, hospitalisations and deaths.

Throughout all new national guidance, individuals are encouraged to exercise caution and take actions to protect themselves and others.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### SUMMER TERM 2021

#### July

**Thursday, 22 July 2021**

- Last Day of Term
- Early closure (12:00-12:30)

**Friday, 23 July 2021 to Tuesday 31 August 2021**

- Summer Holiday

#### August

**Tuesday, 10 August 2021**

- Year 13 (Level 3) results day

**Thursday, 12 August 2021**

- Year 11 (Level 2) results day

### AUTUMN TERM 2021

#### September

**Wednesday, 1 September 2021**

- Staff Training Day

**Thursday, 2 September 2021**

- Start of Term

**Parents/Carers will receive specific information about the staggered return to school in September enabling testing in line with Government guidelines. The information will also be posted on the school website.**

#### October

**Friday, 22 October 2021**

- Last Day of term

**Monday, 26 October 2021 to Friday 30 October 2021**

- Half term holiday

#### November

**Monday, 1 November 2021**

- Staff Training Day

**Tuesday, 2 November 2021**

- Start of Term

**Thursday, 25 November 2021**

- Staff Training Day

#### December

**Friday, 17 December 2021**

- Last Day of Term

**Monday, 20 December to Friday 31 December 2021**

- Christmas Holiday

### SPRING TERM 2022

#### January - 2022

**Monday, 3 January 2022**

- **Bank Holiday**

**Tuesday, 4 January 2022**

- Start of Term

#### February

**Friday, 11 February 2022**

- Last Day of Term

**Monday, 14 February to Friday, 18 February 2022**

- Half Term Holiday

**Monday, 21 February 2022**

- Staff Training Day

**Tuesday, 22 February 2022**

- Start of Term

***April***

**Friday, 1 April 2022**

- Last Day of Term

**Monday, 4 April 2022 to Friday, 15 April 2022**

- Easter Holiday

**Tuesday, 19 April 2011**

- Start of Term

**SUMMER TERM 2022**

***May***

**Monday, 2 May 2022**

- *May Day Holiday*

**Friday, 27 May 2022**

- Last Day of Term

**Monday, 30 May 2022**

- Last Day of Term