



Weekly Student Bulletin for Braintree Sixth Form Students Friday 18 December 2020

Dear Students

Welcome to the last bulletin of 2020 and well done on what has been a term filled with considerable challenges as well as many successes, as we welcomed new Year 12 students for the first time and saw Year 13 return from the school closure. Students and staff have had to show a great deal of resilience and flexibility throughout the term, and it is likely that this will continue into 2021 as well. Staff have greatly appreciated the thanks they have received for lessons via Teams, and have felt hugely encouraged by kind messages from parents and carers as well over the course of the term. I would particularly like to thank our cleaning staff, catering team, site team and IT support who have worked tirelessly and have had to respond to constant change over the last few months. They have helped so much to keep us safe and to ensure lessons continue to be taught under often demanding and evolving circumstances.

I would like to take the opportunity to say goodbye and thank you to some staff who are leaving at the end of this term. We wish Mrs Newell, Ms Monro, Mrs Puleston and Ms Dunnett all the very best for the future. Ms Dunnett's tutor group will be tutored by Mrs Parker from January, with support from Mrs Usher-Letch on Wednesdays.

A very merry Christmas and a very happy 2021 to you all.

Year 13

Mrs Musson has sent out your exam timetables for mock exams, which begin on 1 February. Please note that normal lessons won't be running during the first week of the exams and will resume on 8 February. You are welcome to come into school, study and revise between exams, but the normal timetable will be suspended that week.

Dress Code Consultation

I would like to invite you to take part in a consultation over the sixth form dress code. A link to a form to complete this is here:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=pGSzkutqF0WtMGeWgmb4JjY62rycqJZCtADEABN-h1UQzhQS01YUktHU1NWMetNOEpBTTVKNEZMTy4u>.

Please complete any responses by Friday 8 January.

Nuffield Research Placements – Applications now open for Year 12 students

When?

Summer holidays after Year 12

How long?

4 – 6 weeks.

What?

A well-supervised but independent research project relating to an area of science, quantitative social science, computing, technology, engineering or maths (or a combination!).

Where?

Placements take place in a variety of locations including offices, museums, research centres, laboratories or fieldwork settings.

Costs?

Students can take part in a placement at no cost. Travel costs are reimbursed and students may be eligible to receive a £100 bursary each week.

For more information and to apply: <https://www.stem.org.uk/nuffield-research-placements>

Who is eligible?

To be eligible, students must:

- Be over 16 years old and in Year 12 or S5.
- Be in full-time state-funded education in the UK.
- Have at least 5 GCSEs at Level 6 or above OR Scottish Nationals at Level B or above, including maths, a science subject and English (or another humanities subject).
- Be studying one or more A-level, Scottish Higher (or equivalent) in science, technology, engineering, economics, geography, psychology, computing, statistics or maths.
- Be available for 4-6 weeks of their summer holiday.

Students must also meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Be living, or have lived in, local authority care.
- Come from a family with a combined household income of below £30,000 a year, or be entitled to free school meals, either now or at any time in the last 6 years.
- Be the first in their immediate family to participate in higher education (not including any older siblings).
- This means neither of their parents/carers have participated in higher education, either in the UK or another country. If their siblings have attended higher education, but their parents/carers have not, they are still eligible.

Make Happen Survey

If you attended an Essex school before joining Braintree Sixth Form, you may have been asked to take part in a survey back in October 2017 by Make Happen, which is an organisation linked to Uniconnect, and which aims to increase participation in higher

education. They are now asking Year 12 students to complete a follow up survey to evaluate their programme. You can complete this by following the link below:
<https://survey.euro.confirmit.com/wix/7/p400630205727.aspx?c=6&>

We look forward to seeing you in January. In the meantime, have a very well-deserved break.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs M Townsend', written in a cursive style.

Mrs M Townsend
Head of Sixth Form
Assistant Headteacher – KS5