



Weekly Student Bulletin for Braintree Sixth Form Students Friday 22nd September 2023

Dear BSF Students,

I'd like to start with a thank you to all of you who have given up your time to support the sixth form and the school as a whole this week. Our two Head Prefects gave up a day to represent the sixth form at the Braintree Careers Fair on Wednesday and will also be speaking to parents at tomorrow's Open Morning; the external prefects arranged the first welcome event for external students on Thursday and many of you have offered to give up your Saturday morning to help Ms Ryan. These acts are really appreciated by all staff and will be excellent things to include on your personal statements and application forms.

We also had a visit from a former police officer who spoke to some of you about routes into the police force, giving some really helpful hints about making successful applications. One I'd like to share with you is that, if you already know what job you would like to do one day, get hold of an application form now so that you can see what skills and experience are required and start working on them. This really is the purpose of Enrichment – to build up skills and experiences that will make you more employable in the future.

We have now completed the first full timetable cycle and hopefully now your timetable issues have all been ironed out and you know where you should be and when. If you do still have any problems with your timetable, make sure you have checked Arbor again as it may well have updated without you noticing; if you still have issues, please see me as soon as possible.

Lanyards

Unfortunately, many of you are still needing repeated reminders to wear your lanyards. From Monday 25th September, any student without a lanyard will be sent home to get it – you have been warned! I leave mine in my work bag so I never forget it, so I strongly advise you to do the same!

Reasons to read the newsletter

Last year, one of the 'opportunities for you' that I included was the Imperial College Life Science Scholars programme. Bethan J took part in this and has just been awarded a first (university equivalent of an A*) for the project she completed. Not only is this a fantastic achievement, but it means that if Bethan gets into Imperial College, she will get a research bursary during her undergraduate course. This means this newsletter could improve your application and save you money – two very good reasons to read it avidly!

My Small Change: Safer Driving Pledge

Many of you are already driving or will be starting to learn soon. It's a terrifying statistic that road crashes are the biggest killer of 17-25 year olds in the UK. The #mysmallchange campaign asks Essex residents to pledge a small change that will inspire other young drivers or passengers and help save

lives. As a thank you, you will be entered into a draw to win some great (but not disclosed!) prizes! You can pledge now at mysmallchange.co.uk or scan the bar code on the poster on your left as you enter the building.

Would you like to have a say about exam papers?

AQA would like you to become part of their Student Advisory Group which is a team of dedicated young minds who influence their direction as an exam board. Working alongside their Board of Trustees, they'll help guide our decisions on our question papers and the use of technology in assessment. If you are interested in learning more, you can find out more about what's involved here: [AQA | Join us | Become a Student Advisor](#) You'll be expected to write and submit a personal statement of up to 500-words to explain why you'd be a good fit, by 5.00pm on 2nd October 2023.

Opportunities for you

Online work experience course for medicine & nursing

A free 5-week course for all students aged 14-18 interested in healthcare complete with a work experience certificate. It's happening online every Monday at 7.30pm in October. Sign up here: https://app7.campus-site.com/public/e/click/I4jR49gejWcvhMdRxYE9ow/XR5_hnlt6Ohch8J_AYj1Ag

Army Officer Scholarship Scheme

The Army Officer Scholarship Scheme guarantees students up to £10,000 in financial support, starting in Academic Year 13. It also guarantees a place at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and a career as an Army Officer when you finish education.

You will receive £3,000 while you are in Year 13, then a Standard Bursary of £6,000 while you're studying at university (£7,000 for a 4-year degree). You must have at least 40 ALIS points from GCSEs.

Army Scholars can apply to join any Corps for which they are eligible. You do not have to make a final decision about which Regiment or Corps you want to join until you're at Sandhurst, unless you're thinking about joining as a Professionally Qualified Officer, such as a Doctor, Dentist or Lawyer.

If you are 16 or 17, you will need to apply online before March of Year 12. You will then attend the Army Scholarship board in June or July before you turn 18. This qualifies you for a commission in the Army and allows you to apply for additional bursaries.

For further details, click here: <https://jobs.army.mod.uk/regular-army/what-you-get/bursaries-scholarships/>

Swansea University

Swansea University are holding 8 new sessions this term on a variety of different subjects from Aerospace Engineering and Chemical Engineering to Finance and Modern Languages. Webinars are delivered on current topics by lecturers who are experts in their fields. They give students an idea of the topical areas and developments taking place within subjects you may be interested in studying and can help to support personal statement content. You can register to access live sessions or access these sessions on demand, should you be unable to attend the live sessions. [Current News Webinar Series Registration - Swansea University](#)

Interested in a career in Finance?

There is a live webinar on October 3rd 18.00-19.00 featuring an expert lecturer in Finance from the University of Swansea. Book your place here: [Current News Webinar Series Registration - Swansea University](#)

Interested in studying in the USA?

USA College Day 2023 Saturday 23 & Sunday 24 September, London. You can meet over 120 American universities at this fair, explore studying in the USA and discuss your options directly with admissions officers. Registration is now open here: [USA College Day 23-24 September | Fulbright](#)

Need help with your personal statement?

The University of Hertfordshire can help. Use this link: [personal-statement-template.pdf \(herts.ac.uk\)](#)

Careers in Fashion

At the Fashion Retail Academy, they have a wide range of fashion-focused courses, including Fashion Buying, Data Analytics, Fashion Business, and Digital Marketing. They work with over 140 brands to ensure that graduates have the skills needed by the industry. They also provide work placements, projects, talks, and workshops.

You'll be able to register for their upcoming Open Days a few weeks before the event. These are Open Days for students applying for September 2024 onwards. Click here for the dates: [Dash](#)

UniTaster Days

Get a taste of studying an Animation, Games or VFX degree. You are invited to an undergraduate taster day on Saturday 7th October, a perfect intro to industry-standard software taught on degrees in animation, video games, and visual effects (VFX) If you are interested, click here: [Undergraduate taster days | Escape Studios](#)

The Students' Guide to University is your all-in-one free brochure for essential university guidance. Packed with insights from university experts across the UK. [Download it now](#) – no registration required.

Weekend Career Experience Opportunities

Live & interactive career masterclasses are available in a range of subjects. All programmes take place on Sundays, with dates available from November to January. Students can choose to attend in-person at UCL in London or Live Online. Click here to find out what's on: [Our Programmes – InvestIN Education](#)

Surviving your Workload Free Booklet

To request your free copy of Surviving Your Workload (KS5), simply click here: <https://timfootstudyskills.co.uk/sample-request-form/>

Save the Planet: Join the Climate Change Challenge

Would you like to contribute to a revolutionary global movement? By partaking in this worldwide challenge, you will experience the opportunity of a lifetime, and receive the chance to present in person at the COP28 in Dubai. Following the presentation, selected winners will gain a coveted place on the climate change programme at the Saïd Business School at University of Oxford. Both

experiences are all expenses paid. Click here for information:

<https://localhost:6543/block?id=4f5b8a93-e787-42f5-8f27-47137083fbf5>

Open days

Newcastle University is holding open days on Saturday 30 September, 9am-4pm and Saturday 18 November, 9am-4pm. You can book here: [Undergraduate Open Days | Study With Us | Newcastle University \(ncl.ac.uk\)](#)

The University of Liverpool is holding open days on 23rd September and 14th October. Use the QR code on the poster in the common room.

Weekend Programmes in STEM

Investin are running programmes in **10 STEM and medical science careers this term**, available in-person in London or live online. Students can expect to participate in interactive simulations and masterclasses led by industry professionals working in the field, with highlights including:

Medicine: Practise stitching up a wound

Engineering: Design the mission to take humans to Mars

Psychology: Carry out a clinical psychology assessment

Computer Science: Design your own web application

Ask me if you're interested and I'll forward you the email.

I'm walking the Shine Walk on Saturday night so please be kind if you see a limping but fulfilled old lady in my office on Monday.

Have a great weekend.



Ms C Dunton
Head of Sixth Form