



Weekly Student Bulletin for Braintree Sixth Form Students Friday 29th September 2023

Dear BSF Students,

First of all, a huge thank you to all of you who gave up a precious Saturday lie in to come and represent the school and sixth form on Open Morning. You were all great ambassadors for the school; it made me proud to hear parents commenting on how friendly and helpful you all were.

I'd also like to thank Mr Haddon for giving up his time to offer training to those of you interested in being a teaching assistant for Enrichment. Well done to Sophie C, Ollie H and Lucy C for taking this opportunity; next time, I hope we see a greater take up.

This week, I sent home the dress code to your parents and asked for their support in making sure you are correctly dressed for sixth form. As the oldest students in the school, the rest of the school look up to you as role models, so it is important that you are giving the right impression. This means that skirts and tops which show midriff and/or are too short, and casual shorts and trousers more in keeping with going to the gym are not appropriate. We have started sending serial offenders home to change so please heed this warning and adhere to the Modest, Appropriate and Professional dress code that was agreed by a student panel last year.

Maths video of the week #2 - for bulletin 29/9/23

Fermat's Last Theorem is one of the most well-known theorems in mathematics. It was first stated by Pierre de Fermat in 1637 but was not proven until 1994 by English mathematician Andrew Wiles, who has studied and worked at Oxford, Cambridge and Princeton.

In this week's video Simon Singh introduces the theorem and explains a little of the history of how it was finally proven. Singh has written several popular science and mathematics books (including one on Fermat's Last Theorem) which are very engaging and recommended if you are looking for some super-curricular reading for mathematics. This could be just for your own interest, or to mention in a UCAS personal statement or interview.

Fermat's Last Theorem - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjNcEguuFSA>

Opportunities for you

Online Career and Work Experience Sessions

- Performing Arts Career Day - Saturday 30th September 2023
- Medicine Career Day - Saturday 7th October 2023
- Midwifery Career Day - Saturday 21st October 2023
- Dentistry Career Day - Saturday 28th October 2023
- Business Career Day - Sunday 5th November 2023
- Psychology Career Day - Saturday 11th November 2023
- Architect Career Day - Saturday 18th November 2023

- Vet Career Day - Saturday 25th November 2023
- Law Career Day - Saturday 2nd December 2023
- Computer Science Career Day - Saturday 9th December 2023

Click here to register: [CareerDays.co.uk](https://www.careerdays.co.uk)

Stansted Airport Open Day

Stansted Airport College are holding an Open Evening on Saturday 14 October 10am-2pm showcasing their exciting range of professional and technical courses as well as their unique relationship with London Stansted Airport and their employers based at the Airport.

Tickets are available on Ticket Source: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/harlow-college/stansted-airport-college-open-event/e-dglvvy>

Speakers for Schools: Creative Careers Week

Between the 13-17th November, they are delivering over 25 virtual sessions each led by employers in the creative industries- see the full line-up & sign up to individual sessions by clicking here: [Discover! Schedule Live ScreenSkills \(canva.com\)](https://www.canva.com/learn/speakers-for-schools-creative-careers-week/)

Work Experience Opportunities over half term

Speakers for Schools have lots going on- from 2-hour insight sessions to 5-day work experience placements with companies in a variety of industries. Click here for details: [South East Student Flyer \(canva.com\)](https://www.canva.com/learn/south-east-student-flyer/)

Explore the construction industry- it's not all about building!

Join housing developer Thakeham to learn about the variety of roles available in the construction sector. There are more career routes than you might think in this thriving industry- from sustainability consultant to marketing and interior design.

06/11/23 - 9am-3pm. Click here for details: [results | Speakers for Schools](#)

Pathways 2023

Are you interested in Banking & Finance, Consulting (business and project management), Law, or Veterinary Medicine? There are still places available for fully virtual programmes. Click on these links for details:

[Pathways to Veterinary Medicine - Sutton Trust](#)

[Pathways to Consulting - Sutton Trust](#)

[Sutton Trust - Explore the legal profession with Pathways to Law](#)

[Sutton Trust - Discover finance with Pathways to Banking and Finance](#)

This is only open to students who have always attended a state funded school (like ours) and meet a series of social mobility criteria.

University of Hull Scholarships

University of Hull welcomes scholarship applications from high-achieving students with great potential for academic excellence. To celebrate the appointment of their new Chancellor, The Right Honourable Alan Johnson, they've launched a generous new scholarship programme. The new Chancellor's Scholarship is a full-fee scholarship and will be awarded to 10 new University of Hull students per year, starting with 2024/25 entry and will run for three years. It will cover the full cost of their undergraduate tuition fees and will be available to those who demonstrate high academic achievement and potential.

Key Criteria:

- * Applicants must be UK resident and qualify for Home fee status.
- * All undergraduate degree courses commencing Autumn 2024 are eligible with the exceptions of Foundation courses and Medicine.
- * Applicants will need to submit a written application (max 500 words) and a video (max 2 minutes) explaining why they should be considered.
- * A predicted grade of at least 128 UCAS points.
- * Applications will be assessed on multiple criteria rather than just grades alone. This includes a student's passion for their chosen subject, their overall communication skills and their plans to contribute to university life.

For further details, click here: [Chancellor's Scholarship | University of Hull](#)

Business Opportunities

Spring Pod is a virtual careers insight platform where students can earn certificates and complete industry relevant experience programmes with leading employers and universities. All students need to do is create a FREE account and enrol. The programmes can be completed in class, and range from 1-hour courses, to more in-depth 5-hour long courses that students can complete at home. Upon completion of these interactive courses, students receive a certificate to reference on their CV and/or Personal Statement. Click here for details: [Business - Programmes.pdf - Google Drive](#)

Gresham College Lectures

This is long list but attending a lecture is a great thing for personal statements!

ADHD, AUTISM AND DYSLEXIA

We have a series on [Neurodiversity](#) which will cover Dyslexia and Language-Disorder or Difference by Maggie Snowling; Changes in the Concept of Autism by Francesca Happé; Modern Concepts of ADHD by Peter Hill.

gres.hm/neurodiversity

ASTRONOMY

Professor Chris Lintott - best known for his work on The Sky At Night - will lecture on [Discovering The Universe](#) This series tells the story of our cosmos through six fundamental discoveries including the appearance of interstellar visitors.

gres.hm/discover-universe

BIOLOGY

Professor Robin May will explore [Evolution: The Big Questions](#). How important was random chance in shaping Earth's biodiversity? Can we predict the future evolution of species?

gres.hm/evolution-questions

BUSINESS

Professor Raghavendra Rau will look at [The Big Ideas In Finance](#), the 6 essential paradigms in finance, and explain how financial products are written, priced, and sold.

gres.hm/finance-ideas

ECONOMICS/ HISTORY

Professor Martin Daunton will look at [Cold War, Decolonisation and Economic Transitions](#). The US and USSR both had competing visions of the modern world during the Cold War and decolonisation. After the fall of the Berlin Wall, people believed that free markets had triumphed, but had they?

gres.hm/economic-transitions

ENGLISH

Our new [Black History Month](#) series (also listed under History, see below) explores Writing after Windrush with Malachi McIntosh, Women of the Harlem Renaissance with Kate Dossett, and Literary Activism in Contemporary Africa by Madhu Krishnan.

We hope to announce a lecture by award-winning novelist Bernardine Evaristo soon – please sign up for updates: gres.hm/schools.

gres.hm/black-history-month

ENVIRONMENT

Professor Myles Allen will look at [When Net Zero?](#) after his first series on [Why Net Zero](#) (which are available to watch now). This series stresses achieving net zero as soon as possible to limit the damage to our weather, the natural world and human societies. Professor Ian Mudway will continue to discuss Environmental Health with [Legacies of Toxic Waste](#), exploring microplastics and the so-called forever chemicals, and the persistence of lead in our environment.

gres.hm/when-net-zero

gres.hm/toxic-waste

HISTORY

World-leading paganism expert Professor Ronald Hutton will be discussing [Magic, The Supernatural and The Lost Gods Of Europe](#) from Goddesses of Sex and War to Dragons and Witches. We also have a new [Black History Month](#) series exploring Writing after Windrush with Malachi McIntosh, Women of the Harlem Renaissance with Kate Dossett, and Literary Activism in Contemporary Africa by Madhu Krishnan. Finally, there are one-off lectures by historian Tom Holland – on [Pilgrimages](#) - and Professor Richard J Evans, on [Antisemitism](#).

gres.hm/magic-europe

gres.hm/black-history-month

gres.hm/pilgrimages-holland

gres.hm/antisemitic-conspiracy

IT/ TECHNOLOGY

Professor Victoria Baines will speak about [Tech Change: A Survival Guide](#). This series considers how we can anticipate what's to come for computers and technology in the future. And [Ethics In AI](#) will look at Can AI Protect Children Online? with Andy Phippen and How AI Disrupts the Law with Sandra Wachter.

gres.hm/tech-change

gres.hm/ethics-ai

LAW

Professor Leslie Thomas KC will discuss [Hard Choices: The Law's Struggle with Ethical Dilemmas](#) including hot-button issues like abortion, LGBT rights, and capital punishment. The series will consider the long-running impact of British law in former colonial countries in the Caribbean.

gres.hm/law-ethics

MATHS

Professor Sarah Hart will discuss [Games, Puzzles, Paradox And Proof](#) looking at mathematical sleight-of-hand (such as a “proof” that $1=0$), the Maths of Board Games, and more. And we have lectures on [Logarithms](#) by Professor Oliver Johnson and an afternoon of lectures on the history of [Maths and Astronomy](#) including Astronomy carried out in the skies, and 19th Century Eclipse Expeditions.

gres.hm/games-puzzles

gres.hm/logarithms

gres.hm/bshm-2024

MEDICINE/ PSYCHOLOGY

Professor Chris Whitty will discuss [Medicine After Disasters](#). This series looks at how we can most effectively respond to sudden emergencies to minimise health harms. We also have a series on [New Hope In Cancer](#) discussing the recent transformation of cancer care including: The AI Revolution in Cancer Imaging by Christina Messiou, How Cancer Genomics is Transforming Cancer Care by Sanjay Popat, and Immunotherapy: Cure for Metastatic Cancers by James Larkin.

gres.hm/medicine-disasters

gres.hm/hope-cancer

MUSIC

Professor Milton Mermikides will discuss [The Nature of Music](#), how music exploits our innate listening faculties to communicate otherwise inexpressible emotions. And Professor Dominic Broomfield-McHugh will discuss [Twentieth-Century Divas](#). 'Diva' has been applied to celebrated women musical artists, but is also a stigmatising label. Is it time to reclaim that label?

gres.hm/nature-music

gres.hm/divas

POLITICS

Professor Melissa Lane will look at [The Political Imagination: Ancient Greek Ideas](#) This series will look at six Greek political ideas in the context of contemporary dilemmas. We also have a series on [Migration](#): Nishat Awan will discuss The Visual Politics of Refugeehood; Sarah Rosenberg-Jansen will cover Sustainable Energy in Refugee Camps, and Greg Constantine will look at The Human Cost of Immigration Detention. Finally, we have a [History of Modern Iran](#) This series explores Iran's Constitutional Revolution of 1906 with Ali Ansari to Reading and Misreading the Iranian Revolution by Roham Alvandi, and Iran's 'Woman, Life, Freedom' Movement with Shabnam Holliday.

gres.hm/political-ideas

gres.hm/migration

gres.hm/modern-iran

Have a great weekend.



Ms C Dunton
Head of Sixth Form