Weekly Letter Roundup

Week Commencing: Monday 5th February 2024.





Headteacher Weekly Summary

Headteacher
Kerry Payne
Dear parents and carers,

Despite the often stormy weather we have remained positive in school. We have been really pleased with the ongoing improvements made across all areas of our school. Working towards our Ofsted priorities and ensuring all members of our school community are happy, successful and safe.

We are really hoping that our recent works to improve the roofing across our Green, Red and Violet (science, technology and art) blocks will be completed during or shortly after half term. An enormous thank you to our staff and students for their understanding whilst this work has been undertaken.

Welcoming parents and carers back into school for parents evening for Year 9 this week has been really enjoyable. Having continued to hear that parents and carers liked having the choice of in person or online meetings we have maintained this approach. Thank you to all parents and carers that have engaged in school activities this term, your support is really appreciated.

We hope you all have an enjoyable half term and look forward to seeing everyone back in school Monday 19th February.

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Reward points

From the start of February we have separated out the behaviour points from the positive points. This means when you log into arbor you see a separate tab with the positive points on. This means that no matter what happens during the day students will be recognise for the positives they achieve.

Previous positive points have not been lost they are still on arbor and all heads of year have access to them so students can still cash in their points for prizes.

Here are the top achievement point students from September - January for each year group.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year II
Rihanna–R <mark>ose</mark> Bicknell	Emily Jones	Alexander Bijak	Meryem Gulek	Charlie Hoskins
Sophie Melsome	Toby Elms	Abigail Namugerwa	Ben Wetherall	James Bolger
Janine Nengomasha	Vanessa Halejak	Autumn Dexter Hall	Evelyn Yarwood	Erik Moll
Grace-Ellie Philpot	Kayce McEwan-Phillips	Samuel Mills	Mary Jane Patrick	Lacey Hiron
Tyler Wood	Natasha Boardman	Harry Bullen	Dylan Abbott	Thomas Evans
Olivia Hilton	Ella Street	Chloe Bryan	Sasha Hunt	Chloe- Mai Adams
Millie Currie	Layla Edgar	Ivy May Bloomfield	Isabelle Maylia	Ellis Brooks
Lexi-Ann Wiles	Poppy Burke	Fatoumatta Krubally	Lola Manson	Keira-Louise Wiles
Ruby Pitfield	Maci Collins	Raven Jones	Lukne Juocyte	Joshua Wallin
Kahlan Fisher	James Hunt	Grace Hartley	Billie Hamley	Niamh Wallin

Brune Park has a piece of work on Antarctica

Back in October we ran our very popular design a flag for Antarctica competition. The winning design was by Ruby Winter in Year 7. Ruby's flag then was sent off to the Polar Network who sent it to Antarctica on our behalf.

This week we received an email telling us that her flag had arrived! The pictures below are with James Veale a drilling engineer on Antarctica.

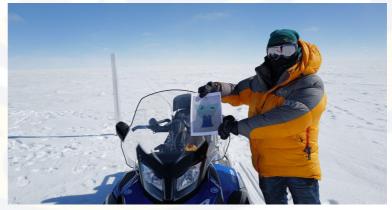
The photos with the ice cores are of cores we drilled as part of the Beyond EPICA project. The ice in the photos is over 100,000 years old. A Look at the ice (and air trapped in the ice) helps us to understand the Earth's climate hundreds of thousands of years ago. The Earth's climate over a million years ago was much warmer, so by understanding what the climate was like then, we can understand better how the Earth's climate is going to change in the near future – and help people prepare better.

The photos with the radar and skidoo are examples of deep fieldwork they have done around the Beyond EPICA project. They drive a few miles away by skidoo, set up GPS and radar equipment, leave it collecting data overnight, and drive back to pick it up in the morning. By comparing the results to data they collected in previous years we can see how the ice is moving over the land (not very much in this part of Antarctica!).

To find out more about the Beyond EPICA project visit https://www.beyondepica.eu/en/







Celebration Friday:

Happy Celebration Friday.

What a lovely end to the first half term of 2024!

Miss Payne met with students from all Year groups this morning that have been nominated for always doing their best and working extremely hard.





Uniform

We have delivered assemblies to all year groups this week with a focus upon uniform. During the assemblies we discussed why wearing the correct uniform to school is so important and how this gives us a sense of identity and belonging to our school community. We also linked the importance of how we present ourselves to creating positive first impressions.

All pupils are aware of our minimum uniform expectations and our drive on uniform after half term. The uniform sprint begins on Monday 19th February and this addresses the identified uniform infringement, tracksuit/jogging bottoms. A reminder that any pupils coming into school wearing tracksuit bottoms will be sent home to get changed following communication with home.

We thank you in advance for supporting your child to attend school everyday, on time wearing the correct uniform.

Where can you buy uniform from?

You can buy Brune Park school uniform from https://skoolkit.co.uk/school-uniform/554 We do however, have a small stock of ties in school that you can buy on scopay and we can issue to the students straight away.

What is the Brune Park minimum uniform expectations;

- White shirt
- Grey or black trousers
- Black shoes or trainers
- A grey Brune Park logo jumper for year 7, 8 and 9
- A black Brune Park logo jumper for year 10 & 11
- A bag
- A coat of any colour but must be a coat
- A nose stud, I charity bracelet and a stud in each ear.

What are students not allowed to wear around school?

- Students will not be allowed to wear hoodies. They must be taken off before the first bell goes at 8.40 and placed in bags until 15.10.
- Tracksuit bottoms of any type.
- Jeans.
- Rings.

Year 10

Work experience

Year 10 have officially had their work experience launched this week. Work experience is from June 10th – June 14th 2024.

This year we are doing our work experience through Unifrog. All students should now have a login to Unifrog in their school email accounts.

Over half term we need students to start sending emails or talking to possible places they might want to do work experience. We know for many students they will not know what they want to do and they can use Unifrog to help them get some ideas.

On the Year 10 Cole Google classroom students have access to a video that shows they how to use Unifrog and the slides from the assembly that contain a writing frame on how to email employers (The link to the assembly can also be found here: Year 10 Work Experience).

If a student cannot find a placement in school we will have a plan where students will not be sat in a classroom but will be listening to past students and what career path they have taken and completing some volunteer work around the local area and school.

Useful links

https://www.unifrog.org/ https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/

If you have any questions please contact the career team at <u>careers@brunepark.qfmat.org</u>

Year II

Post 16 Choices

We have over 200 of our year II students who have already secured a place with one of our local colleges. For those who have not yet put in an application it is not too late to apply. All colleges still have their applications open and there are lots of new apprenticeship opportunities in the area available.

St Vincent (21st Feb) and Fareham (22nd Feb) both have open days coming up that do focus on T levels and what they are. These are open to all parents and students.

Useful links:

https://www.fareham.ac.uk/

https://www.stvincent.ac.uk/

https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship - Where to apply for apprenticeships BAE have also recently announced some new apprenticeships these can be found here:

https://www.baesystems.com/en/careers/careers-in-the-uk/apprenticeships





- T Levels Live: Virtual Event Thursday 22nd February, 5:45pm
- Open Event: Wednesday 28th February 2024, 4pm-7pm

Year II revision

Year II had an extra assembly this week where we launched our new series of revision top tips. Every week in assembly from now until May, students will hear from a range of different teachers about how they can best revise. Teachers will present a revision method each Monday morning in assembly and then teachers across the school will incorporate the use of that method in lesson and homework tasks throughout the week, giving pupils the opportunity to practice and embed the use of the technique.

Our first two teachers to present were Ms O'Grady and Mrs Rogers. They talked about how to use mind maps and brain dumps. More information follows below.

It is important for year II pupils to start revising as soon as possible. We recommend they do the following:

- 1. Create a revision timetable that has planned breaks, down time and revision all built in
- 2. Create themselves a small area where they can revise in peace and with no distractions
- 3. Put away their phones, Ipads and anything else that can distract them

How to use a mind map:

You will need paper and a pen.

- I. Start with the overarching topic in the middle
- 2. Each branch of the map relates to a sub-topic different colours work well
- 3. Sub-topics that connect go next to each other mind maps are a way to connect ideas and link key concepts
- 4. Ideally, mind maps should contain a mixture of text and images to prompt your memory
- 5. Large amounts of content can then be noted on the back
- 6. You can use the mind map to test yourself and each other
- 7. How much of the content can you remember, just by reading the bullet points

How to do a brain dump:

You will need paper and a pen.

- 1. Pick a small topic from one of your subjects. Not a whole topic though
- 2. Using no notes, no internet or help, write down anything and everything you can remember. This can be key words, facts, figures, what it leads to and more!
- 3. Then you need to use a revision guide, your books or a website to find out what you did not write down. This is the stuff that is not in your long term memory and therefore need to revise!
- 4. In a few weeks do this again and see what you remembered and did not again. Always then revise the content you do not write down!