



Weekly Student Bulletin for Braintree Sixth Form Students Friday 29 January 2021

Dear Students

As I write, Mr Bridgwater is just approving and finalising the very last applications which will be submitted to UCAS today, in time for the 6pm deadline. Well done to all of you who have submitted your applications now – 86% of the year group have applied this year and over a third of you have already received all your offers and have some decisions to make! I'd like to thank Mr Bridgwater for all his hard work with this process, which has not been quite as straightforward as normal this year with students working remotely. I hope he has the chance to put his feet up a bit this evening!

Of course, if you have missed this deadline but decide you want to apply to UCAS, you can still do so, as universities may still consider you if they have spaces. Please speak to your tutor about this if you reconsider your plans at any point. Mr Bridgwater's assembly on Tuesday will focus on the next steps after submitting your application, including student finance.

For students who do not plan to go on to university or higher education next year, please see below for details of planned support for your applications.

Community Fundraising Launch - care packages for NHS staff and care workers

We would like to let you know about an initiative we are launching to allow us as a school and sixth form to thank NHS workers and care workers in our communities and show our appreciation for all they are doing to look after those in need during this critical time.

We plan to put together care packages to show our support for those who are working so hard to keep us all safe - these will include things like hand cream, other toiletries and healthy snacks.

In assembly next week Mrs Brewis-Shephard will be talking to you about enrichment activities and tasks that you can take part in during the school closure. Amongst these, in support of the fundraising, we invite you to send a thank you message to an NHS or care worker that can be printed on a card and enclosed in a care package, design a card that we can print, as well as taking part in challenges that you could get some sponsorship for and donate to the funds. A link for you to send your messages in and upload card designs is [here](#): We will not be using any surnames in the messages on cards.

At this difficult point when we are not able to be in school and are working separately at home, we think that this will be a great way to work together as a community and help others. There is an option to donate any funds you feel you can spare or raise on ParentPay - thanks to many of you who have already donated, even before we launched the campaign! We ask that any donations and messages are received by 22 February 2021.

Student absence

Attendance at online lessons has continued to be excellent. However, if you know you are going to be absent from lessons for any reason, such as illness, please contact Mrs Watson via email: caroline.watson@braintreesixthform.com. She will make teachers aware of your absence. Do make sure that you do this and that you respond quickly to any messages about absence, as following up on student absences is all part of our safeguarding duties.

Diversity Group

Mrs Brewis-Shephard is meeting the Diversity Group next week – please email her if you would like to join the meeting.

Apprenticeships support

In March, we have a range of activities booked to support students making decisions and applications. These will all be taking place via Teams.

Assembly 2 March: Introduction to apprenticeships – this assembly is for all Year 12 students and any interested Year 13s, and will focus on information about different apprenticeship routes and pathways, including higher and degree apprenticeships.

8 March: Registering for apprenticeships – this is a workshop for Year 13 students who are seeking apprenticeships. This will walk you through the process and give you a number of tips and hints you can use in your search.

15 March: Employability workshop - this is a workshop for Year 13 students who are applying for apprenticeships or jobs and will focus on application letters, CV writing and interview skills.

Students who have expressed an interest in going straight into employment or apprenticeships will be invited to the workshops, which will be led by a representative from the AIM group. If you do not receive an invitation in due course but would like to attend, let me know – these will take place during Personal Development Time.

Careers in the police

If you are considering a career in the police, new entry routes to join have been launched and ARU are holding information sessions about these. More information can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Work Experience

The Experience Team have sent out further details of online work experience opportunities, which can be found below.

New Virtual Work Experience Opportunities Recruiting Now:

[East West Railway Company - Building a New Railway](#)

Dates: 6th – 9th April 2021

Eligibility: 16 – 19 year olds interested in Technology, Engineering, and Customer Services.

Application Deadline: 28th February 2021

[International Women`s Day #ChooseToChallenge](#)

Dates: 8th March 2021.

Eligibility: 14 – 19 year olds interested in the construction industry.

Application Deadline: 26th February 2021

[Haworth Tompkins Architecture Insight Evening](#)

Dates: 2nd March 2021.

Eligibility: 14 – 19 year olds keen to find out more about a career in architecture.

Application Deadline: 15th February 2021

[Green Skills in the Construction and Engineering Industry](#)

Dates: 6th April 2021.

Eligibility: 14 – 19 year olds keen to find out more about a career in architecture.

Application Deadline: 7th March 2021

Have a lovely weekend.

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