



Weekly Student Bulletin for Braintree Sixth Form Students Friday 1 March 2024

Dear BSF Students,

I hope you all enjoyed the week off and managed to have some time to yourself as well as time to get up to date with studies and revision.

Notices

Year 12 work experience week – 8th – 12th July

Work experience week for year 12 will take place the week beginning 8th July. A letter was emailed out regarding this on 13th February. This email included a letter that can be sent to employers if required and a form that needs to be completed and returned to Ms Watson. There are paper copies of this form available outside of Ms Watson's office if you prefer to complete it by hand.

Year 12 exams

Progression exams - There will be another week of internal exams for year 12 students during the week 22nd – 26th April.

External exams – there are external exams taking place during May for Health and Social Care, Criminology and BTEC sport students.

Year 13 exams

The exam season for year 13 students will begin on 13th May. More information will follow soon regarding revision sessions and study leave. Intervention sessions during period 6 sessions have begun this week for certain subjects. If you have been invited to these sessions it should appear on your timetable on Arbor.

Assembly

Thank you to Mr Wilson for delivering a talk on student finance to all sixth form students. Student finance will be available to apply for during March and the deadline to complete this by is 31 May. Year 13 students applying to university need to look out for this and apply soon. It was useful for Year 12 to hear and gave some useful points to think about when starting your research. The PowerPoint slides used have been attached to the email for your information.

BookTok

To celebrate World Book Day next week, the Sixth Form Library are excited to announce the launch of **#BookTok!**

What is BookTok?

BookTok is a subcommunity on the app TikTok that focuses on books and literature. Creators make videos reviewing, discussing and joking about the books they read. These books range in genre, but many creators tend to focus on young adult fiction, young adult fantasy and romance.

Book Tok came into existence when TikTok and the world of books collided. It refers to a community of readers and authors passionate about literature and books, which typically interact with the use of the hashtag.

How do I get on BookTok?

You can be a part of BookTok if you are a TikTok user. To join the BookTok community, you can simply open a TikTok account and search for BookTok hashtags or users you like and then follow and interact with their content.

Eventually (if you're feeling brave) you can also start posting your own book-related content as well. We would love to hear about these! A link to BookTok can be found here [#BookTok | TikTok](#)

Make sure you check out the new book display showcasing the books available to take out on loan. We will be following BookTok but if there are any trending books you would love to read that we don't have please let a librarian know and we can order it for you.

Read a book, replenish your soul for a little while...you never know you might like it!

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the Year 13 prefects and student ambassadors who helped with the year 9 breakfast in Café 6 this morning. It was nice to welcome 40 year 9 students for a hot drink and pastry and also have the opportunity to find out about the sixth form, the subjects they could study and have the chance to ask the year 13s what options they chose in year 9 and how it led onto their current studies in the sixth form.

Opportunities for you

Free Parent Webinar: Helping Your Child Prepare for Exams

Our year 13 students will be working with Elevate for a revision session on 30th April.

We're excited to announce that Elevate Education will be hosting their next parent webinar on **exam preparation** on March 5th.

Elevate works with our students, delivering high-impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing, and exam preparation. By tuning into their webinar series, you'll learn **how you can help support your child at home by reinforcing the skills they're learning at school.**

Sign up for the session below to learn how you can maximise your child's marks in exams by helping them to prioritise the work that really matters over the next few weeks.

How You Can Help Your Child Prepare for Exams Tuesday 5th March 6:00-7:00pm (GMT)

[Click here to register for free](#)

Here's what Elevate will be covering on the night:

- Prioritise your child's high-impact work to maximise marks
- Improve your child's time management to avoid last-minute preparation
- Help your child study effectively using past papers

[Click here to register for free](#)

NCS online parent/guardian and student webinars

NCS are hosting a series of online PG & Student webinars where you can find out more, ask any questions and sign up to the NCS 2024 residential experiences.

- Wednesday 6th March - 7pm. Please sign up to the eventbrite event: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/820006410247?aff=oddtcreator>
- Wednesday 17th April - 7pm. Please sign up to the eventbrite event: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/820026219497?aff=oddtcreator>

Unitaster days – resources to share

Events for you: Discover 656 events listed on UniTasterDays, open for direct student bookings, with new events added daily. Check them out [HERE](#). Our featured event this month is the [University of Southampton Experience Residential](#)

NEW Today – One in Five Podcast: From the same production team as The Uni Guide Podcast (see below). The One in Five Podcast has been released today. Support for disabled students considering university, from graduates and disabled students at university. Listen [HERE](#). One new episode will be released every five days!

The Uni Guide Podcast: Gain insights into the student experience. The latest episode covers the careers support before, during, and after university. Listen to this and all 26 episodes on a huge range of university topics [HERE](#)

Webinar Platform: Explore university subjects through dynamic webinars, introducing the A-Z of university subjects to support you to make brilliant university subject choices. Listen to them all [HERE](#).

UniTasterDays featured event information. Provided by the University of Southampton.

16th -19th July 2024

Join the University of Southampton on campus for a 4-day, 3-night programme. The Experience residential is a great opportunity to get a taste of degrees offered at the University of Southampton and student life ahead of university applications.

You'll learn in an academic environment and join students from other schools and colleges through a timetable of lectures, practical activities and a variety of fun evening social activities.

Degree programmes/ Subject areas on offer for 2024: **Chemistry, Physics, Mechanical Engineering, Geography, Biological Sciences, History, English, Modern Languages, Music, and Business.**

This residential is free and open to Year 12 or Level 3 (Year 1) students who meet our academic and Widening Participation eligibility criteria. For more information, eligibility criteria and to apply click [HERE](#) or use the button below.

[Find out more](#)

Speakers for schools - 1 hour virtual open evening – 18th April 2024

Did you know that the British creative industries are booming? We can help your students find creative career opportunities and feel inspired to go after them!

We are delighted to be partnered with the Discover! Creative Careers programme led by ScreenSkills and supported by employers from across the creative sector to deliver a **week of FREE virtual sessions, with some in-person opportunities, to state schools and colleges – during Discover! Creative Careers Week 2024, 18th – 22nd November**. We'll showcase careers in creative tech, film, animation, design, music, fashion, publishing, architecture, crafts, heritage, museums, galleries and more!

Young people will be able to access 3-5-hour insight days and longer work experience placements, 1-hour industry spotlight career talks and inspirational talks with speakers – all advertised on the Speakers for Schools website.

Click here to book your place

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-parent-carer-open-evening-to-discover-creative-careers-tickets-841439547337?utm_source=iterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=educator

HIGHER AND DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP LIST OF 300

Higher and Degree Apprenticeship Vacancy Listing. Showcasing 300+ vacancies from 70 employers including Balfour Beatty, Ofcom, Goldman Sachs, Government Economic Service (GES), MBDA, Ford Motor and Jaguar Land Rover, it's the perfect resource to share.

[CLICK HERE](#)

ACCESS CAREER AND APPRENTICESHIP VIDEO LIBRARY

All things about apprenticeships as well as getting a career such as CV and LinkedIn.

[CLICK HERE](#)

[National Career week 4th -8th March](#)

Make Happen are excited to celebrate National Careers Week 2024. Between the **4th and 8th March**, we are offering a programme of virtual events for year 12 and 13 students and FE students in years 1 and 2 (level 2 and 3 students). We have partnered with [MADE training](#), [My Great First Job](#), [TechGirls](#) and [Mr Beezy](#) to deliver sessions alongside our fantastic Make Happen team to help students prepare for those milestone choices in their education and career planning.

We want students to come away from this week feeling much more confident about their futures after college, regardless of their career pathway. Whether they're thinking about doing an apprenticeship, going to university or are not sure at all, we have a range of sessions being delivered, to support their prospects.

These events can be booked onto individually.

To view the full programme of events and book onto sessions, please visit our [events page](#).

Cambridge University – Essay Writing Masterclass Programme 2024

Newnham College is pleased to announce the return of the Essay Writing Masterclass Programme 2024!

Applications

Please submit your application using [this form](#).

Applications will close on 09:00am on Monday 11th March.

The form should be completed by the applicant themselves. In order to complete your application, you will need:

- Home and school address
- Contact details for a nominating teacher
- Predicted grades

There are 130 places for this year's programme. Application outcomes will be communicated by 17:00 Friday 22nd March.

What is it?

The Essay Writing Masterclass Programme (EWMP) is a *free*, 12-week programme in Humanities and Social Sciences research and essay writing for women in the UK in Year 12 or equivalent. Through a series of expert-delivered virtual workshops, independent research, and a Cambridge-style supervision, participants will work towards producing an essay for submission. Each participant will receive a grade and personalised feedback on their work.

Participants can expect to receive specialised instruction in research, critical thinking, and essay writing. The EWMP aims to improve academic independence and confidence, fostering the knowledge and skills that will prepare participants for university-level work, as well as application to selective universities.

The EWMP is open to all women in the UK in Y12 (or Y13 in N. Ireland/S5 in Scotland), regardless of school type or background. Applications are welcomed especially from those who identify with any of the Widening Participation criteria listed in the privacy notice below. This information, alongside subjects and predicted grades, will be taken into account when prioritising applicants to the programme.

In 2024, the EWMP has been designed for those interested in pursuing Humanities or Social Sciences at university.

The content and essay topics will appeal to a broad range of subject interests; questions have been designed as open-ended and relevant to current public and academic debates. Applications are encouraged from all students interested in Humanities or Social Sciences.

Who is it for?

The EWMP is open to all women in the UK in Y12 (or Y13 in N. Ireland/S5 in Scotland), regardless of school type or background. In the event that the programme is oversubscribed, [widening participation criteria](#) will be used for prioritisation of applicants.

Please contact essayprizes@newn.cam.ac.uk with any questions.

Opportunities with other Cambridge Colleges

Robinson Women in Science Festival

The 2024 Festival will be held at Robinson College, one of the Colleges that form the University of Cambridge, as a residential event from the afternoon of Monday 8th April to the afternoon of Tuesday 9th April. The event will involve talks and sessions delivered by members of our science community here at Robinson, alongside admissions information and exploration of the College, the city centre, and the city's science museums. Attendees are also invited to take part in a Science Fair, which gives them the opportunity to produce and present their own academic poster.

Deadline: 4th March. All details and application form [here](#).

Magdalene Subject Taster Webinars

The sessions held across February and March are intended for Years 11 and 12 (or equivalent) students. Students from other year groups are welcome to attend but should be mindful that the session content is aimed at GCSE/A Level. All sessions will take place on Zoom from 17:00-18:00 on the dates specified. Sessions include History, Computer Science, Geography, Criminology, Mathematics, Law, Medicine, and Languages.

All details and registration forms [here](#).

The Aspiring Scientists Training Programme

St Catharine's College & Pembroke College are partnering with the Gurdon Institute to run the Aspiring Scientists Training Programme (ASTP), a residential programme that will run from Sunday 7 July 2023 to Friday 12 July 2024. This is a fantastic opportunity for students studying sciences to experience life as a student at the University of Cambridge, work in labs alongside the university's scientists and stay in a Cambridge college.

Deadline: 1st April. All details and application form [here](#).

Modern and Medieval Languages Open Day

Bookings are now available for the Modern and Medieval Languages Undergraduate Open Day on 15 March 2024 at Cambridge! This is aimed at prospective applicants from Year 12 (or equivalent) to learn more about what it's like to study languages at university, to get a taste of Cambridge life and to ask questions.

All details and registration [here](#).

Have a great weekend.



Ms A Brewis-Shephard
Head of Sixth Form