



Weekly Student Bulletin for Braintree Sixth Form Students Friday 1st December 2023

Dear BSF Students

This has always been one of my favourite days of the year – Christmas is round the corner; decorations can go up in the Dunton household and I'm quite partial to an Advent Calendar! I once did a pretty awful assembly when I was first a Head of Year 7 where I played them Kate Bush's song, December Will be Magic Again (I would recommend you listen to it, but Alexa steadfastly refuses to play it!) and talked about keeping the magic of Christmas. It fell very flat, so you don't need to worry about a repeat performance. However, in a time where bad news seems to dominate across the world and at a time when looming exams may well be generating some stress for you all, I encourage you all to find a balance and focus on the things we are all lucky to have: people who love us; people who want to support us; a place to live where we don't have to worry about bombs or guns; access to free education and a huge range of opportunities. Let's keep making BSF a happy place to be so that we all feel a bit of December magic!

Year 11 Breakfast

Thank you to all of the prefects and subject ambassadors who helped out at the Breakfast event this morning. It was great to see you engaging with the Year 11's we invited and talking to them about some of the reasons they should apply to study here next year.

Enterprise Fair

On Tuesday, we will be holding the Enterprise Fair which hopefully Year 12 are ready for! Year 7 students will be brought over at 9.10 so you need to be set up by then. Your tutors will be in the theatre/café area that morning and will have paper registers so you do not need to go to tutor period, but you must sign in and make sure you see your tutor has seen you so that you are marked in. You can arrive earlier than 8.40 and I would advise you to do so if you want to bag a good spot!

UCAS

Our internal deadline has now passed and there are still a large number of you who have not submitted your applications. Obviously, UCAS still accept applications up to the end of January but we strongly advise you to get them in this side of Christmas for many good reasons – you will look more organised to the universities you are applying to; you will not have to think about UCAS while you should be revising; you could be missing out on reserving accommodation (some of those who have already submitted applications already have accommodation sorted!) Please don't leave your application to the last minute!

Maths video of the week #10

Howie Hua is a Maths instructor at Fresno State University in California. He makes a series of TikTok videos demonstrating mathematical concepts in different visual and intuitive ways. I particularly like

his demonstration of the infinite sum $1/3 + 1/9 + 1/27 + 1/81 + \dots$ in a way that is really easy to understand.

This is a collection of some of his TikTok videos, on YouTube.

Howie Hua's Math TikTok videos (Part 1) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=59g9BuHISxg>

Opportunities for you

Unifrog (which you all have access to) has a huge range of subject talks, career talks, webinars and online courses which are free for you and always available. Do make sure you are taking advantage of these opportunities. As well as a vast amount of university information, it also contains information about apprenticeships so don't let the name put you off if that is the route you have chosen.

InvestIn Summer Experiences

Students and parents are invited to InvestIn's upcoming Summer Experience webinar. Meet the expert team behind their flagship Summer Experiences in London, who will walk you through all the key components of their immersive work experience programmes taking place in July & August 2024.

Join them to hear all about:

- A day in the life of a Summer Experience student
- Programme offering, structure & format
- Residential package
- Dates, fees & registration process
- Live Q&A panel

They will be holding this webinar twice on Thursday 14th December at either 11am – 12pm (sign up here [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)) or 7pm – 8pm (sign up here [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#))

STEM and Medicine Summer Experiences

Investin are offering you the most immersive and exclusive career experience opportunities this summer. You will experience first-hand the work professionals typically carry out in STEM industries, through a range of immersive career simulations and site visits. Every programme is designed and delivered by top professionals, enabling you to work alongside experts in the field and expand your network. You will receive a personalised industry reference letter outlining what you have achieved over the course of the programme. InvestIN is an approved activity on UCAS applications allowing you to stand out from the crowd in university applications.

You can register here: [STEM & Medicine Summer Experiences: Ages 15-18 – InvestIN Education](#)

Discover what Newcastle University is like

On Wednesday 17 January, 2024 (9am – 11.30am or 4pm – 6.30pm) you can join a Virtual Student Experience and discover what Newcastle University is really like. During the virtual sessions you'll learn about:

- applying to Newcastle
- PARTNERS – and how you could get a lower offer

- student finance
- health and wellbeing support
- University buildings and state-of-the-art facilities on campus via a virtual tour.
- living in Newcastle – a UK top 5 student city (QS Best Student Cities 2024)
- ...and much more

Sign up here: [Virtual-Student-Experience-Newcastle - Study With Us - Newcastle University \(ncl.ac.uk\)](https://www.ncl.ac.uk/virtual-student-experience-newcastle-study-with-us)

FREE Accountancy Summer School opportunity with First Intuition

The event will be held 10th and 11th July 09:30 – 15:30 in their Chelmsford centre. It will cover:

- Introduction to Accountancy
- Routes into Accountancy
- What does an Accountant do (with practical tasks)
- CV and interview preparation
- Employer forum (Q&A)

Places are filling up fast so make sure you register your interest here: [Accountancy Summer School Interest 2024 - Powered by Keap \(infusionsoft.app\)](https://www.keap.com/infusionsoft/app/accountancy-summer-school-interest-2024)

Future Scholars Programme


The Future Scholars Programme is designed to support the transition to higher education for students from Black African and Caribbean backgrounds in Year 12 up until the first term of university. Students will be able to enjoy information, advice and guidance on university choices and applications, practical support with personal statements, career development activities, academic skills sessions and access to a network of staff and academics. Activities will take place both online and in person. Travel reimbursement is available to students, subject to their travel policy. This is an opportunity for students who are interested in applying to university and enthusiastic about being part of an enriching community of Black scholars and professionals. Apply here: [Paths to University: Future Scholars 2023 \(google.com\)](https://www.paths-to-university.com/future-scholars-2023)

University of East London Psychology Masterclasses

The School of Psychology at the University of East London is hosting a series of webinar masterclasses on Thursday afternoons this December. Join for discussions on the psychology of adversity, the psychology of rebelliousness and the psychology of making better decisions.

For further information and to register to attend, please click here: [2023 Psychology Masterclasses | University of East London \(uel.ac.uk\)](https://www.uel.ac.uk/2023-psychology-masterclasses)

Have a great weekend and enjoy December.



Ms C Dunton
Head of Sixth Form