



Weekly Student Bulletin for Braintree Sixth Form Students Friday 4th November 2022

Dear Students

I hope that you all had a good break over half term and have come back feeling refreshed and ready for the next half term. I'm sorry that there was not a newsletter while I was off sick – I'm sure you all really missed it! The **Opportunities For You** section of this letter is a bit longer than usual because of this.

Thank you all for participating in the GOSH walk on Tuesday – it was lovely to see so many of you walking around the field (and the tennis courts for the more shoe conscious among you!) My wellies may have been a trifle over cautious as it wasn't as muddy as I expected! We raised £93.71.

Classrooms

I have received a number of complaints from staff about the state in which classrooms are being left after study periods and break. I really want you to have access to all of the rooms in your sixth form but if displays are being damaged, equipment disappearing and a general mess being left, I will be forced to lock them when the rooms are not being used. Please treat the classrooms with respect; teachers are spending a lot of time on displays at the moment and it is very disheartening if they get damaged.

Open Evening

Next Wednesday is our Open Evening. It runs from 5-8 pm. Thank you to all of you who are helping on the night or have helped staff with the preparation. Please can you make sure that you dress smartly on the evening.

MUN Opportunity

This week, our former Head Prefect Mollie contacted me to offer you an opportunity. She is now studying Politics and International Relations at LSE and is working with a team who are offering you the opportunity to take part in a Model United Nations Conference at LSE in March. Although we do run our own MUN Conference in the sixth form, this opportunity at a prestigious Russell group university would be a great experience for you and a good thing for Year 12s to put on personal statements next year, especially if you are considering courses in Politics, History or International Relations.

The event takes place over three days from Friday 10th March to Sunday 12th March at LSE. It is £65 per person if you apply quickly, which includes coaching and workshops and meals on the Friday evening, Saturday lunchtime, Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon. There is no accommodation available so you would have to make your own way there each day but there is a Scholarship programme you can apply to cover your costs.

If you are interested and would like more details, do come and tell me.

Café 6 relaunch

The plan is that Café 6 will be relaunching this month, subject to DBS checks being completed for new staff. Thank you all for your patience regarding this delay.

Mock Interviews

Over the next week or two, all students in Year 13 and some in year 12 will receive a Teams invite for their mock interview. You must click accept and NOT DECLINE! The email will then disappear, and the interview will be saved in your calendar.

If you are in Year 12 and do not receive this invitation, you will get another opportunity next year but do see me if you feel you would particularly benefit from this opportunity now as we sometimes have more availability, and I can put you on a waiting list.

Geology talk

Apparently, in the Geology talk that took place on the Tuesday before half term, the lecturer was unable to play the video. Dr Mottram asked me to pass this message on to those who attended:

Dear A-level students,

Thanks for listening to me today, I really enjoyed meeting you all.

If you are interested in learning more about the University of Portsmouth then please [sign up to hear about open days, personal statements and more here](#), or take a look at our website.

Our new [Earth Science course](#) replaces our existing Geology and Engineering Geology courses, how it works is you apply to study Earth Science through [UCAS](#), after a common first year you choose whether you want to follow a pathway studying (and graduate with a degree in) BSc. Geology, BEng. Engineering Geology or BSc. Environmental Geology. [For more information please see this video](#).

Please let me know if you have any questions: catherine.mottram@port.ac.uk

Read for Good

The library is launching the 'Read For Good' Readathon. Read For Good is a charity that raise funds for children's hospitals including:

- Liverpool (Alder Hey)
- London (Great Ormond Street)
- Norwich (Norwich and Norfolk Hospital)
- Glasgow (Royal Hospital for Sick Children)

Anyone wishing to take part can either donate £1 or collect a sponsorship form from the Sixth Form library, then read as many books/comics as you can during the forthcoming half term. As the term draws to a close, we will collect any sponsorship money.

Read For Good have donated a selection of great books and comics which will be available in the main school library to help you in your quest!

Plastic bottles

Charles, in Year 12, is after any plastic bottles you might be throwing away for a project he is working on. Please bring any you have to my office.

Opportunities for you

Job Opportunity

Abberton Rural Training is an educational charity that deliver a variety of programmes and skills training to residents of Essex and surrounding areas. They have begun to offer respite sessions for children and young adults with additional needs in partnership with Essex Short Breaks. These sessions aim to provide fun and exciting play opportunities for these children and young people whilst ensuring their wellbeing in a safe and stimulating environment.

They are currently looking to recruit new playworkers to join their Short Breaks team. Let me know if you are interested.

Investin: Summer Career Experiences in London

Use this link to look at the wide range of opportunities: [Young Summer Experiences 2023 – InvestIN Education](#)

UniTaster Days

Click on the link to see the range of subject webinars and tasters: [University events for schools and outreach opportunities | Uni Taster Days](#)

Newcastle University

If you are considering applying to go to Newcastle, it's worth registering for the PARTNERS scheme as you may get a lower offer as well as a lot of support. [PARTNERS Programme - Supported Entry to Newcastle University - PARTNERS Supported Entry - Newcastle University \(ncl.ac.uk\)](#)

You can also book for their Open day on Saturday 19 November [Newcastle Uni Undergraduate | On-Campus Open Days - Study With Us - Newcastle University \(ncl.ac.uk\)](#)

What university? & What career? LIVE

Explore your options by attending the What university? & What career? LIVE event at Olympia London (11 & 12 November 2022). Book free tickets here: [Event - 11 & 12 November 2022 | What Next? \(whatcareerlive.co.uk\)](#)

Mini-Medical School

Newcastle University's Mini-Medical School is running on 3, 10, 17, 24 November and 1 December. These online interactive sessions start at 6 pm and are open to anyone aged 15 and over. Book here: [Mini medical school - Faculty of Medical Sciences - Newcastle University \(ncl.ac.uk\)](#)

Nottingham Trent University

Open days

- Saturday 5 November 2022
- Wednesday 7 December 2022

Experience Taster Days

- Politics and International Relations – Friday 4 November 2022
- Sociology and Criminology – Wednesday 9 November 2022
- English Language and Linguistics – Wednesday 9 November 2022

[Open days and events | Nottingham Trent University](#)

Medical Mentoring Programme

ARU have set up a free mentoring initiative run by medical students and junior doctors to help support aspiring young medics in their medical school applications. Ask me for full details or simply apply by filling in this form: [Students' In2MedSchool Form \(inc. Mentoring\) \(google.com\)](#)

Gresham Competition

I mentioned this competition a few weeks ago. If you are intending to enter. Remember that the deadline is 15 November.

Here is the information again:

Gresham College is launching a competition for Year 12 students in September 2022, to promote the art of communicating complex information in a clear, concise and compelling way. This year's theme is the environment and sustainability.

The Competition will:

- support the development of oracy skills.
- help students with UCAS applications and job interviews.
- promote a deeper understanding of the environment.
- introduce students to the inspiring research of world-class academics.
- be an opportunity to present in front of academics and professionals.

Students will submit a five-minute, recorded presentation – the main focus should be the student speaking but you can use images, graphs, or other visual props that help explain your points. Shortlisted candidates will then be invited to present again in person in London, and there will be three awards.

Sutton Trust Summer Schools

The Sutton Trust are offering some students the opportunity to experience a week at university next summer for free. You will get the chance to explore academic taster sessions in your chosen subject. You can choose from over 40 different courses, from Archaeology and Anthropology to Veterinary Medicine. With over 15 hours of teaching at undergraduate level, you will get the chance to dive deep into subjects that you are passionate about. Going beyond the school curriculum, your academic sessions will provide you with material to use in your personal statement.

You will take part in workshops that will help you navigate UCAS and write the best personal statement possible. You will find out about how to apply for student finance, the availability of bursaries and how to manage your money whilst at university.

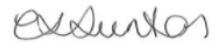
You may be eligible if you:

- Attend, and have always attended, a state-funded, non fee-paying school/college
- Be in Year 12 (England and Wales), Year 13 (Northern Ireland) or S5 (Scotland) at the start of the programme
- Have achieved at least five GCSEs at grades 9 – 6 (A*-B), including English and Maths. A minimum of two of these qualifications should be at grades 9 – 7. Or five A or B grades at National 5 including one A
- Would be the first generation in their family to attend university
- Have been in receipt of Free School Meals whilst at secondary school
- Live in a neighbourhood with a low rate of progression to higher education or a high level of socio-economic deprivation
- Have attended schools with a lower than average progression to higher education, or a higher than average proportion of students who qualify for Free School Meals
- Have been looked after or in care

The more criteria you meet, the more likely you are to get a place on the programme. Not meeting all of the additional criteria will not disqualify you.

For more details, use this link: <https://www.suttontrust.com/our-programmes/uk-summer-schools/>

Have a great weekend.



Ms C Dunton
Head of Sixth Form