

Weekly Letter Roundup



Week Commencing: Monday 29th January 2024.

BRUNE PARK
COMMUNITY SCHOOL



Headteacher Weekly Summary

Headteacher
Kerry Payne

Dear parents and carers,

This week has been filled with events focused on Personal Development and next steps in education. From Fire Safety assemblies in Year 8 and Options events in Year 9 to local college providers supporting our students to complete application forms for their next steps in education. Our focus has been on the wider responsibilities of a school and preparing for the future. The events this week have been supported by the Fire Service, St Vincent College, Fareham College and Military Mentors - a huge thank you to them for attending and advising our students.

I have also had the pleasure this week of meeting with some of our students to gather their feedback about we are doing well and what we still need to improve. It was pleasing to hear that most students feel they have an adult they can trust in school and the vast majority were keen to tell me how much better their lessons are because of the feedback they receive. They are concerned that we do not always recognise the positives and they wanted positive feedback and positive points to be a focus - hopefully they will be pleased to hear this has started today. Students also wanted to raise concerns regarding some continued anti-social behaviour in toilets, this is something we are keen to address and we will update you in due course with our plans.

Contents of this newsletter:

Notices for all year groups:

[Year 7](#)

[Year 8](#)

[Year 9](#)

[Year 11](#)

Notices for all year groups:

Student leadership trip

On Tuesday 30th a group of our current student leadership team and future leaders of Brune Park visited the Mayor of Gosport at his parlour. Students got a tour of the building and an insight into how council meetings work. Thank you to the Mayor for hosting us for a very enjoyable and informative visit.



Arbor positives updates

Following on from feedback from staff and students we have now separated out the behaviour and positive points. Now when students are awarded their getting it right points or more it will no longer get mixed in with their behaviour negatives. They are two separate scales.

When you login to arbor you will be able to see a new section that says positive points and you can see the total for the week. If you have any feedback on the divide of the point please let your child's tutor know.

Celebration Friday

This week we had a bumper celebration Friday. 34 students were nominated for a variety of reasons. From our year 8 student receptionists who have shown excellent leadership over the week. To year 10 and year 11 geography students who every lesson work hard and are making great progress and to more year 11 nominated by their year office for there resilience and hard work.



Uniform

Our previous two communications home have been reminders of our school uniform expectations. We continue to drive these high standards to ensure all students meet these expectations.

We have noticed that a few of our pupils are wearing tracksuit bottoms to school. This is not part of our identified uniform. We will therefore be launching a uniform sprint after half term which will mean that any pupils wearing tracksuit bottoms to school will be sent home to change into the correct school trousers or skirt. We will call home to inform parents/carers of the uniform infringement and permission for the pupils to go home to change. Thank you in advance for supporting this drive on school uniform.

If we are unable to make contact with parent/carer to gain permission for any pupil wearing tracksuit bottoms to go home and change the pupil will be taken out of circulation and spend the day with their tutor or year team. Where this isn't possible the pupil may spend the day in the isolation room. We therefore encourage all parents/carers to support their children to wear the correct uniform to school each day.

For any pupils having to go home to change there will be a 'loss of learning' time. We appreciate that it is vital for all pupils to be in all lessons all of the time. Therefore any 'loss of learning' will be made up at the end of the school day.

We will continue to celebrate those pupils who are 'getting it right' through our positive rewards system, our celebration Fridays and our year team celebration assemblies.

Safer Internet Day: Inspiring Change, Making a Difference

This year's Safer Internet Day theme, "inspiring change , making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online," reflects our commitment to empowering students to be responsible digital citizens.

Throughout the week, students will be carrying out activities focusing on the following problem solving and online misinformation:

- How to assess information online,
- spot fake news,
- Cyberbullying and online safety:
- Understanding online risks,
- How to protect themselves online
- Where to seek help if needed.
- How to support mental health linked with online usage

We encourage you to discuss these topics at home and use Safer Internet Day as an opportunity to have open conversations with your children about their online lives. It is also an opportunity to explore with your child, their online presence and content. With so many apps and access to over 1.1 billion web pages, it is easy to access age-inappropriate content.

We are committed to providing a safe and supportive environment where all students can thrive, both online and offline. We believe that by empowering students with knowledge, skills, and open communication, we can ensure they navigate the digital world with confidence and maintain good mental health.

We want to work in partnership with you to achieve this goal. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher, tutor or a member of your school's safeguarding team if you have any questions or concerns.

Key Resources:

UK Safer Internet Centre: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

Childline: <https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Children's Mental Health Week: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

Mind: <https://www.mind.org.uk/>

YoungMinds: <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about PERSUASIVE DESIGN ONLINE

'Persuasive design' refers to the techniques that companies employ to influence our thoughts and behaviours when we're on the internet. These approaches can be spotted on websites, in apps and even as part of some video games. Persuasive design means that this content has been deliberately presented in a way that's intended to encourage you to spend your time or money (or both). These methods often prove highly effective at keeping people engaged and invested for longer than we might expect.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

POTENTIAL ADDICTION

In the digital world, persuasive design can make certain activities more addictive and harder to walk away from: some people may begin to feel anxious or irritated without access to their device or their favourite app, for example. It can also often leave users feeling isolated, as – if they spend most of their time on social media – they may start to find it difficult to talk to other people in real life.

MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Scrolling online or gaming without regular breaks is proven to be harmful to our mental health. The constant bombardment of news stories (many of them negative), images and influencers' posts can create sensations of unease, uncertainty and FOMO (fear of missing out). Young people can get so immersed in this environment that they become less likely to spot misleading posts.

PROLONGED SCROLLING

Social media can draw any of us – regardless of age – into a continuous pattern of refreshing our screen, following posts and links down rabbit holes or reading countless comments made by others. This aimless scrolling can eat up time which could have been spent on more productive activities. It could also lead younger users into areas of the online world which aren't age appropriate.

SENSORY OVERLOAD

Repetitively scrolling, clicking on links or playing games can create an unending stream of new information and visual stimuli. Put it this way: social media isn't exactly renowned as a carefree, chilled-out environment. Such overstimulation can become too much for young people to handle, resulting in sensory overload and causing them to feel stressed, overwhelmed and exhausted.

COSTLY ADDITIONS

Video games sometimes display offers for downloadable content or loot boxes which can be bought with real money. While these 'microtransactions' temptingly promise to improve a player's gaming experience, most of the time they are money sinks. Young people in particular, excited by the chance of enhancing their game, could spend quite a sizeable sum very quickly indeed.

PHYSICAL CONSEQUENCES

Hours spent sitting and scrolling means far less time moving around and getting exercise: hardly ideal for a young person's physical health. Additionally, prolonged exposure to the light given off by a phone's screen can lead to eye fatigue and discomfort, especially if viewing it in the dark. Extended phone use before bed can also impact on sleep quality, affecting mood and energy levels over the following days.

KEEP SCROLLING

WIN TO WIN

27 new posts

Advice for Parents & Carers

ESTABLISH LIMITS

Talk to your child about setting some time limits on how long they can use their phone, tablet or console in the evenings or at weekends – or perhaps how often they can go on a specific app, game or website. You could also decide to involve the whole family in creating this shared screen time agreement, making things fair (and healthier) for everyone.

NIX NOTIFICATIONS

Stop knee-jerk responses at the source by turning off push notifications and alerts. Whether it's a gaming notification or a social media update, these not-so-gentle reminders are designed to catch our attention and lure us back to our device. Switching them off – or even deleting any particularly intrusive apps – can help prevent your child from being reeled back into the online world.

ENCOURAGE MINDFULNESS

Acknowledging any addiction is key in overcoming it – and compulsive scrolling is no different. If anything mentioned in this guide sounds familiar, it could help to have an honest, open chat with your child about how much time they spend online. Get them to think about how often they scroll through social media aimlessly or habitually open it up whenever they have a spare moment.

MAKE A CHECKLIST

Considering a list of relevant questions can be an effective way of helping children figure out why they're scrolling on certain sites or consuming particular pieces of content. A checklist can prompt young people to ask themselves if they're learning anything or benefiting from this activity – or if they're wasting their time. Taking a step back can sometimes help us to see things more clearly.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings has more than 20 years' experience in the field of relationships, sex and health education (RSHE). As well as delivering workshops and training for young people, parents and schools, she is also a subject matter expert on RSHE for the Department of Education.



The National College



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Tree planting

We were lucky enough to receive some free hedgerow saplings and 5 fruit trees from the tree council. We then invited a few tutor groups to plant these trees during tutor time along the fence of our school ground.

Students worked with the gardening team to plant these trees. Not only have students helped in the fight against climate change but have also created new habitats on our school grounds.

We hope to get some more trees in the near future for all tutor groups to plant and contribute to improving our school environment.



Year 8



On Wednesday 31st year 8 students had a special assembly from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and rescue service. Students enhanced their knowledge on how to prevent fires, how to test their smoke alarms and the laws and rules around arson.

Year 8 were fantastic on the day and were really respectful to our guests asking lots of great questions. We also thank the team for coming to Brune Park and speaking not only about fire safety but also about their career journeys.



Hampshire & Isle of Wight

FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Year 9

Year 9 options

Our year 9 have officially started their option process. So far they have had a drop down day regarding their future careers. Then on the 1st February the year group had an assembly on their options followed by a parent information session.

We would like to thank all parents who attended the evening and also to St Vincent college and Military mentors who were also in attendance to start talking to students about where their GCSE options.

The option form and information [website](#) is now live and on google classroom for students to start picking their options.



All year 11 students will be receiving a form during tutor time to fill in regarding where they are planning to go after Brune Park. The form just asks if students are happy for Hampshire Futures (the career advice) and Brune Park to have information on where they go (college, sixth form or other) once they leave us. This form is nothing to worry about it is to update records.

Leavers Form

School name: _____ (Please use CAPITAL letters)

Full name: _____ (Please use CAPITAL letters)

Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____

Hampshire County Council's Children's Services Department would like you to agree (provide your consent) for your school to be informed of what you go on to do in the Autumn Term and Spring Term after you leave school.

We will collect information from you as part of our wider activity to ensure year 11 leavers have a further education place, apprenticeship or job opportunity (with training) and the law requires us to collect and store this information. However, to be able to inform your school of your situation, we need for you to tell us that you are happy for this to happen and provide a signature stating you agree to this. We are asking for this information to be able to contact you to offer you support in trying to find a further education place, apprenticeship or job opportunity (with training) and also to use this information as evidence during any OFSTED inspection to support the work your previous school is doing. Please be aware that this offer of support by your school is not under a service agreement with the County Council, which is why we need your agreement.

You can withdraw your consent at any time by emailing careers.service@hants.gov.uk providing your name and requesting for this consent to be removed. If you decide not to provide consent to share this information with your school, it will have no negative impact on you accessing services from the County Council or other organisations providing this type of support under arrangements with the County Council in the future.

- We will keep your personal information for 16 years.
- You have some legal rights in respect of the personal information we collect from you.

Please see the County Council's general privacy notice for further details:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/privacy/privacy-general-notice>

- You can contact the County Council's Data Protection Officer at data.protection@hants.gov.uk
- If you have any concern about the way we are collecting or using your personal data, you should raise your concern with us in the first instance or directly to the Information Commissioner's Office at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

Statement of Consent

Please tick the options below setting out your decision for allowing us to share your information or not:

I do agree that:

Hampshire County Council can pass my situation to my former school in the Autumn Term and again in the Spring Term after leaving my school as part of a list of former pupils. This will confirm whether you are or are not in employment, education or training. This may include provider/employer details, course level, subject area and start date.

By providing this contact number and/or email I agree it can be used by the County Council to provide support to obtain a further education place, apprenticeship or job opportunity

My former school can use this as evidence in support of their OFSTED inspection.

Signature: _____

Date signed: ____ / ____ / ____



Year II Post 16 options

We would like to thank St Vincent college and Fareham who have been in school this week having 1:1 and small group meetings to help students fill in their college applications forms.

The majority of year II now have an application to one of our local post 16 provisions. But if you know your child has still not done an application there is still time!

Mr Rogers and Mr Tracy from the year II team will be running drop in sessions on Thursdays in the I room after school for any student who has not yet done an application. Anyone is welcome to attend.



Year II revision



Period 6 revision sessions have been taking place for some time now, with promising attendance levels from our Year II pupils. Thank you and well done to all those regularly attending period 6. The expectation is that every pupil attends at least 3 after school revision sessions of their choice, per week. This counts towards their Passport to Prom. Registers are completed in Period 6 sessions and attendance is monitored closely. After half term, Period 6 sessions will appear on every Year II timetable, to remind pupils to attend. Parents will also be able to monitor attendance to Period 6 via the Arbor App, in the same way that they can monitor attendance to any other lesson.

Week 1 & 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Subject	Home study day	English	Humanities (Geography & History)	Options subjects	Science
Location	Home	Main English block classrooms	B002, B003 & B004	Various - talk to your teacher	Footlights
Groups	All pupils are asked to revise a subject of their choice	All pupils are asked to attend	All History and Geography pupils are asked to attend	All pupils are asked to attend a revision session of their choice	All pupils are asked to attend



Prom Event 2024



This is an opportunity for you to borrow a dress, suit, shoes and accessories for your prom at no cost!! All we ask is that you return items clean, after use.

The Gosport Community Hub, Military Road,
PO12 3BU

February 24th, 12pm to 4pm.



GOSPORT
COMMUNITY HUB