



Weekly Student Bulletin for Braintree Sixth Form Students Friday 18th October 2024

Dear BSF Students,

Well done on getting through the penultimate week of this long half term. There is one week to go and next week is only a four-day week! There is a non-pupil day next Friday 25th October, and also on Monday 4th November. Please do use the time over the slightly extended break wisely. Do have a break, but also ensure you use next week to speak to any staff members you need to or gather any key materials that can support you over the half term.

Notices

Assembly – sleep

The irony was not lost on myself that I was delivering an assembly on the importance of sleep whilst feeling very tired from minimal sleep myself. Therefore, I am aware of the importance of bringing this to your attention (and my own) to remind you of the importance of getting the right amount of sleep, regularly, and to build good habits around sleep. Hopefully, you found the research informative and that there were some helpful hints that you could take away too.

Trip – UK University and Apprenticeship Search Fair – Friday 15th November 2024

A letter was sent home to Year 13 students this Monday and it will be sent to all Year 12 students this Monday coming.

We have space to take 70 students along to the UK University and Apprenticeship search fair, which will be held at the Chelmsford City racecourse on **Friday 15th November**.

The fair will feature:

- An extremely large range of **exhibitors** including: **Russell Group, red brick, modern institutions and apprenticeship providers**.
- Vital seminars by university and industry experts, including key topics: UCAS Personal Statement, Degree Apprenticeships, Student Finance and Why take an Apprenticeship.

The fair is targeted at students in Year 12 and 13.

[Please see details here.](#)

A coach will leave the Sixth Form at 11.00am and return from the racecourse at 1.15/1.30pm.

We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £5 to cover the cost of transport to and from the event. The trip will be taken on a first come serve basis by returning the slip on the letter to Ms Arthur or Ms Watson.

Year 13 – Revision session with Elevate Education

Next **Tuesday 22nd October during period 1** all year 13 students will take place in a revision/study skills session by Elevate Education. This will involve smaller group sessions and take place in three classrooms during period 1. This session will provide key tips and strategies prior to the mock exam week which for year 13 students will take place between **9th-13th December**.

Elevate education ran a session for the year 13 students last year prior to their final exams and the feedback received from the students was very positive.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the 4 senior prefects Keith S, Lucy C, Sophie C and Jake R for giving up their time in the morning to deliver assemblies to the lower school students about the CPR champions role, the training they had, and for supporting Essex air ambulance.

Fundraising

To support Essex Air Ambulance there will be two events taking place next week that students can get involved in.

Bring **£1** in next week and throw our Notley Pumpkin head (designed by our Prefect team). This will be outside the Theatre (on the grass area) all week (Monday – Thursday) You will be competing against staff and students – let's see who is the best. Winner wins a £20 Amazon voucher.

Staff v Students netball match at lunchtime on Wednesday 23rd October.
£1 to watch and lollipops will be on sale for 50p

Nilakshi – Go fund me page

I spoke to the students in the assembly on Tuesday about Nilakshi who is a student that started at the Sixth Form last September alongside our current year 13 students. She is undergoing a battle with cancer. She had 3 chemotherapy sessions to treat her condition and unfortunately needed further medical intervention to stay alive. Nilakshi has started receiving treatment for her condition in Sri Lanka and the family are asking for any support to help fund her treatment for the next 6 weeks before a review. They are hopeful that she will get better and resume school.

Here is the GoFundMe page, <https://gofund.me/3596997e>.

Opportunities for you

This section contains opportunities that are sent through from a variety of different organisations. The opportunities will vary in nature and be suitable for different students, some of the opportunities will be free and others may have a cost associated to them.


STEM SMART scheme Cambridge

A message from a current year 13 student - I've just seen this, it's a poster advertising the STEM SMART scheme Cambridge run every year, and I thought I'd send it on to advertise it to the Y12s, if any are interested. I can advocate for the course, it really is great, and the students sign up and participate in it themselves.

Here's some more information: [STEM SMART | Undergraduate Study \(cam.ac.uk\)](https://stem-smart.cam.ac.uk/)

"STEM SMART (Subject Mastery and Attainment Raising Tuition) is a widening participation initiative from the University of Cambridge in association with Isaac Physics, to provide free, complementary teaching and support students who attend a UK maintained school (non-fee paying school) and:

- have either experienced educational disadvantage or belong to a group that is statistically less likely to progress to higher education and
- are considering applying to Engineering, Computer Science, Physical Sciences (eg physics, chemistry, earth sciences, materials science) or Biological Sciences (eg plant sciences, pharmacology, physiology, evolution and behaviour, biochemistry) courses at university and are studying A Levels (or equivalent) in maths and science."



Are you studying **maths with at least one of physics, chemistry, biology, computer science or further maths?**


Considering applying for a **science, computer science or engineering** course at university?

STEM SMART is a **FREE** programme for Y12 students from state schools, beginning in January 2025 and supporting students through to May 2026.

STEM SMART includes weekly online tutorials with Cambridge University subject specialists, access to student mentors and lectures from top scientists.

To find out more, check your eligibility and apply, go to
www.cam.ac.uk/stemsmart

Apply by 31st October 2024



'Medicine Interview Course' - Lincolnshire Training Hub

Following successful yearly courses between 2020 and 2023, Lincolnshire Training Hub are pleased to be offering our 'Medicine Interview Course' this again for Year 12/13 students applying for Medicine (2025 entry) on the 27th of October between 1pm and 5pm online (on zoom).

To include:

'Top Tips' seminar, run by existing Medical students.

Common themes that come up in interviews,
How to tackle questions

Hear about their own experiences.

1:1 mock interview with personalized constructive feedback on how you could improve your performance

Opportunities to ask our medical students questions about the process.

Application deadline: **21st of October 2024.**

If you have any questions, please email molly.butcher@nhs.net

Please note our course is only for Medicine applicants – this is not aimed at dentistry, pharmacy, nursing or veterinary applicants.

Please request the application form to be sent to you directly from either Ms Brewis-Shephard or Ms Arthur.

The complete university guide – league tables 2025

Visit the complete university website to see the league tables for 2025

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings>

Career days

There are new dates available for your students to attend career days online taking place online over the next couple of months.

Career Days give students an insight into different careers that might appeal to them, advice on subject choices and how to apply to university, followed by work experience in the afternoon to help them see what the career may be like. Students receive a certificate confirming their work experience.

Students who are aged 13-18 can register to join the online days by visiting www.careerdays.co.uk

The schedule is as follows:

Architect Career Day - Saturday 26th October 2024

Performing Arts Career Day - Sunday 27th October 2024

Law Career Day - Saturday 2nd November 2024

Vet Career Day - Saturday 9th November 2024

Computer Science Career Day - Saturday 23rd November 2024

Engineering & Technology Career Day - Saturday 30th November 2024

Students can visit www.careerdays.co.uk to join a session that interests them and will receive a certificate at the end of the day confirming their work experience.

Real World Lecture: What Do Hackers Know About You?

VIRTUAL EVENT

Thursday 9th November, 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Do your students want to experience a lecture before they go to university, then they can join one of our amazing lectures, as they explore social engineering, a key approach that is increasingly being used to secure private details and has led to some high-profile security incidents. Find out more about hackers, the case study of Kevin Mitnick, and identify techniques to develop good cyber hygiene.

<https://email.schoolcommunications.co.uk/rsps/m/0jCgxc8JCdR3KwA4It7OQ6pzFUIZZg7DUKT3vag8GFY>

Essex University Opportunities

Winter Insight Day

Wednesday 13 November 2024, 9.45am-2.35pm

There is still time to join us at our Colchester campus for our Winter Insight Day, where we will be running a selection of interactive and engaging taster sessions across all three of our teaching faculties.

Sessions running on the day include:

- School of Sport, Rehabilitation and Exercise Sciences - 'An Introduction to Sport and Exercise Science: Exploring the Science of Exercise through Blood Analysis.'
- Department of Psychology - 'Where Do We Look? The Science Behind YouTube Viewing.'
- Essex Business School - 'Conflict Resolution Masterclass.'
- Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies - 'Psychoanalytic Criminology: Murder in A Strange Case of Jekyll and Hyde.'

There will also be sessions from the School of Health and Social Care, Department of Literature, Film and Theatre Studies, Edge Hotel School, Department of Sociology and Criminology, Essex Law School, and the School of Mathematics, Statistics and Actuarial Science. Please check out our [event webpage](#) for more updates.

Students will be able to sample two subject areas, meet our enthusiastic staff members and have their questions answered. There will also be the opportunity to take tours of our beautiful campus and meet our Student Ambassadors, giving students an insight into life at Essex.

To learn more about this exciting event and book your places click [here](#).

Life Sciences Discovery Day

Wednesday 11 December 2024, 9.45am-2.45pm

Our Life Sciences Discovery Day provides the perfect opportunity for Year 12 and Year 13 students, as well as mature students, to spend practical time in a lab and experience Life Sciences at the University of Essex.

Over the course of the day, students can explore Marine and Environmental Sciences and delve into Biomedical Science and Molecular Biology. There will also be an opportunity to speak with current students, to ask any questions about studying a subject such as Life Sciences at University and take a campus tour.

The programme, including details of planned activities and timings for the day can be found on [our webpage](#) and you can book your space [here](#).

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Website – www.englishtutorplus.co.uk

Have a good weekend

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ms A Brewis-Shephard'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'A'.

Ms A Brewis-Shephard

Deputy Head of Sixth Form