



Dear Parents,

As this is the first newsletter of 2018, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a belated Happy New Year. We are just over a week into a very busy term and I am glad to report that pupils have settled back into the routine and that they are working hard whilst enjoying all aspects of School life.

During 2018 you will be hearing lots more in the media regarding the use of AI (Artificial Intelligence) and robotics. In educational terms there is a huge amount of research taking place and the commonly held view is that machines should be encouraged to continue to do the more mundane tasks which allows humans to continue to be creative. To put this in a work place context, it is now the case that our 5 year olds will be going into a labour market where two thirds of the jobs they will do don't yet exist. Therefore, all schools have to consider the impact of new developments and it is imperative that our pupils are well versed in the skills required to be able to work, adapt and live with all emerging technologies. Please rest assured that we are looking at this idea very closely and the rationale behind the future Prep development has this very much at its core.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish our Year 6 pupils the very best of luck in the Senior School entrance exam which takes place next weekend. They have all worked hard and I am confident that they will come through with flying colours. A number of pupils have also taken part in the various scholarship exams and we are hopeful of success in these areas.

Mobile Phones

A polite reminder to all parents that pupils should only bring their phones into School if they either get a school coach or walk to School. There are no exceptions to this rule as the pupils simply do not need to have them at school. Those who do bring them to school are required to place them in the allocated box in the reception area and collect them at the end of the school day or after their participation in clubs or late stay.

Kindest regards,

Jason Whiskerd

Bronze Awards

Tia Patel and Alfred Barnbrook

Headmaster's Awards

Sophie Kelly-Fleming

New House Captains for this Term

Congratulations to: Emma Burgess and Finlay Pattison for Lawrence, Tia Squibb and Jamie Venter for Quennell, Amber Penman and Advait Badhrinath for Heseltine and Nithya Maraju and Muhammad Ali for Bayman.

Year 6 Librarians

Congratulations to the following Year 6 pupils who have worked hard with Mrs Pike at lunchtimes and have successfully become Librarians:

Bayman: Sophie Cooke, Claudia Boyce, Katherine Hak, Elizabeth Jones, Achinta Kundra, and Nithya Maraju. **Heseltine:** Emelia Cleverley, Amelia Dinning and Lucy Gough. **Lawrence:** Emma Burgess, Amman Johar, Sienna Snodgrass and Charlie Whitney and **Quennell:** Jonathan Dedman, Lillie Mizera, Tami Oyelakin, Elsie Playle, Solari Robert-Tariah, Seerat Sandhu and Tia Squibb.

Online Safety Resources

We are delighted to be able to offer you free membership of the 'Parent Lounge' from ParentZone.org.uk, one of the leading children's online safety organizations in the UK. Your Digital Schools membership gives you FREE access to Parent Zone's brand new Parent Lounge with:

- Online training
- Expert advice and information on all things digital
- Access to a free help service for all your tech questions

To get started, go to <https://parentzone.org.uk/parents/discover-parent-lounge>

- Click **ENTER PARENT LOUNGE**
- Click on the pink **ADD TO CART** button
- On the next page click **checkout**. You'll then be asked to enter your email address.
- On the next page, you will need to enter the coupon code **BRENTWOOD** to ensure you have free access. The code gives you a 100% discount.

Once you've completed the short registration you'll receive two emails - one confirming your order and one with log in instructions. After clicking the link in the email press the log in button to set a password, then you'll be directed to the Parent Lounge.

Once you have logged in the Parent Lounge will always be accessible at this link:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/parents/discover-parent-lounge>

Please do take a look and let us know what you think of this and how it has been useful to you.

Design Technology Department

The Design Technology department in KS2 are looking for one or two willing helpers for this term to assist with Food Technology. Ideally, you will already have had DBS checks via the school (although we can organise this, it takes several weeks) and you will need to take part in some Child Protection training. The role will involve assisting pupils to cook a variety of dishes, helping the teacher with some preparation before the lessons and also helping to maintain the cookery room. You will need to be available on Tuesdays between 12 and 3:40pm and Wednesday mornings from the start of school until 11am. There might also be an opportunity to help with more Food Technology in the subsequent term if you wish to. We appreciate that your time is valuable but if you are able to commit to helping during these times for this term please contact Miss Frank via email – franks@brentwood.essex.sch.uk.

A NEW (BORN) PROJECT FOR PREP KNITTING CLUB

It is believed that the first sense a new-born baby develops is the sense of smell and that a baby first recognises its Mummy by her smell. For this reason, St Thomas's Hospital in London gives hand knitted "bonding squares" to all the premature babies in their Special Care Baby Unit. They give a matching square to the mummies to take home with them to keep close to their skin. The following day, the squares are swapped over, so the baby can smell their mummy and vice versa. This carries on throughout the babies' stay in hospital, and then the squares go home with the baby as a special keepsake.



St Thomas's recently launched an appeal for new hand-knitted squares, and the children at Knitting Club have decided to support this special cause. We will keep you updated on our progress. If any parents, grandparents or friends would like to help us boost our square supplies, we are looking for pairs of squares in double-knit wool, with 33 stitches per row, in any colour.

Thank you,
Mrs Corp and Miss Scotland
P.S. Mr Kitley and Mr Barber, we know you can knit!



Name Check

This weekend could all parents please check their child's uniform, bags and PE kits to confirm that it actually belongs to them as a number of named clothing items have recently gone missing. Thank you.

Sporting News

We've had an extremely busy and energetic start to 2018, and for those of us that may have over indulged slightly over the festive break, being back amongst the vim and vigour of Brentwood School Sport is just the tonic.

Last Friday we held our House Swimming Gala for Year 6 - the first one held as a single year group event - and the atmosphere was fantastic. All the races were extremely competitive in nature, with huge encouragement coming not just from team-mates on poolside but also from parents in the viewing gallery. Congratulations must go to Scarlett Johnson (6AM) of Lawrence and Elliot Gibson (6ST) of Quennell who won the two length challenge for girls and boys respectively, and to Quennell who was the winning team overall on the day. That said, we will await the outcome of the Year 5 Gala on Friday 19th January and the Year 3 and 4 Galas to be held later this term before discovering which House wins overall.

This week we've been learning about body tension and muscle control in gymnastics; making some interesting shapes whilst rolling and balancing. The teamwork so often evident outside on our sports fields, courts and astro has made its way into the gym, with pupils willingly offering feedback and positive praise to their peers.



During Games afternoons, boys in Year 3 and 4 have switched their focus to Football, with the girls learning the skills of Netball. Year 5 and 6 boys and girls continue to develop these two sports alongside Rugby and Hockey. Please ensure pupils come appropriately equipped for all lessons.

We have had one other fixture before going to press - a 5 - 0 victory for the U11 Girls A Football Team away at Ingrave Johnstone on Wednesday 10th January. There was a hat-trick for Olivia Mitchell and Sophie Cooke was not far behind, scoring the other two. Well done to all the girls, including Sophie Young of Year 5 who impressed on her debut.

A date for you diaries now: as per the Prep School Calendar, we will be taking one team each from Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 to the National School Rugby Tournament Festival at Hurstpierpoint College on Sunday 4th February. Selections will be made at the earliest opportunity but please bear this date in mind if your son has represented the Rugby A Team in any of these age groups. Year 3 selections will be based on performance in Tag Rugby Games lessons.

We are close to commencing use of the SOCS Sport Programme in use in the Senior School and many of the top Independent Prep and Senior Schools in the country. We hope this will further improve the procedures for communicating all the goings on of our busy sports programme to pupils and parents. Watch this space...

Finally, for all of those parents of pupils who will be attending the Jersey Sports Tour in April, I will be posting a letter on the Prep Portal shortly giving a few more details just received from the tour operator, and requesting some further information from you as parents. Once this information is received, I will arrange for a meeting in school at which all final details can be discussed. There are 33 pupils scheduled to attend and the itinerary looks fantastic - I for one am already very excited!

Here's hoping for plenty of super sporting successes in 2018.

With best wishes

Mr Sawyer
Director of Sport & Co-Curricular Activities

Early Years and Key Stage One

Dear Parents,

Let me take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year and hope that your resolutions are all still on track – Remember the school day starts at 9am so please ensure you allow time to be here before the gate closes!

The children have all come back beautifully, and carried on where they left off. Nursery children started their dance lessons on Monday and Miss Lucy was very pleased with them!

Just a few New Year reminders for you ...

- I helped with Reception swimming today and would like to remind you all - please **name all items of clothing** for your child. This is something we say at the start of every academic year but with the children changing for swimming in such close proximity to each other it is vital please!
- Forest school will start in the week beginning 22nd January. Staff will confirm which day your child will be doing Forest School for the rest of this year. Following Mrs South leaving at Christmas, we have slightly changed the sessions.
- Please check your Lent term calendars for events this term! Please note that the March consultations are only on Wednesday 14th (3.30pm – 5pm) and Thursday 15th 3.30pm- 4.30pm and then 5.30pm -8pm). Nursery will also have an extra session on Tuesday 20th March from 4pm- 6pm. Apologies for the error on the printed calendar.
- Please remember that boys' caps and girls' felt hats should be worn to come into school **every morning**. School woollen hats may be sent in for children to wear outside for playtime, Forest School and swimming.

Once again a huge thank you from all staff for the amazing Christmas gifts we received both to the staff room and individually. We are very grateful for and appreciative of these kind gestures. I wish you all a happy, healthy and positive 2018!

Kind regards
Vanessa Audas

Calendar error

Please note there is a mistake on the printed Lent 2018 Prep Calendar that was sent home before Christmas. The error relates to the times of the EYFS and KS1 Parent Consultation.

The correct timings are:-

3.30pm - 5pm - Wednesday March 14th, 2018

3.30pm – 4.30pm - Thursday March 15th, 2018

5.30pm - 8pm - Thursday March 15th, 2018

(There is no later session on Wednesday 14th)

Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

Reception

Frozen Toys in Reception!

Our Reception children returned to School on Wednesday to discover their toys had been frozen in blocks of ice! The children were immediately drawn to investigate what had happened and quickly set about trying to free the toys!

Some children decided to rub the ice because they had warm hands which could melt the ice. Other children suggested placing the ice near the window so the sun could melt it and some thought the radiator would help too!

With lots of rubbing, turning and patience the children were delighted to free some of their toys from the ice!



Year One

A Very Chilly Start!

Year One began their Very Chilly topic this week with some great activities. The children read the story of The Rainbow Bear and discussed where polar bears live, they made polar bears from craft materials, paper snowflakes and snowflake biscuits. As a surprise finale for the afternoon the children became explorers out in the cold and roasted marshmallows with Mrs Challis. Luckily there was some hot chocolate to warm them up once they came inside!



The Nursery classes met Miss Lucy on Monday and had their first Dance lesson in school.



Brentwood School
PREPARATORY

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Forthcoming Events

Friday 26th January 2018	9am - KS1 - Year 2 - Build a Tudor House
Monday 29 th January 2018	6.30pm - KS2 & KS3 Parent Workshop - Resilience and Motivation - part 1 of 2
Tuesday 30 th January 2018	3.15pm - EYFS & KS1 - Sharing Hour for parents and pupils in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2
Wednesday 31 st January 2018	EYFS - 11.45am - Lunch for invited Reception Parents in KS2 Library
Friday 2 nd February 2018	KS2 - Year 5 - Young Voices – lunch at Senior School 12 pm

Forthcoming Sports Fixtures

Friday 19 January 2018	2pm - KS2 - Year 5 Swimming Gala - all details tbc
Wednesday 24 th January 2018	2.30pm - KS2 - U10 Rugby v St Cedd's - (H) 2.30pm - KS2 - U10 A&B Netball v St Cedd's - (H)
Thursday 25 th January 2018	2.30pm - KS2 - U9 Rugby v St Cedd's - (A) - leave 1.30pm - return 4.15pm – 2.30pm - KS2 - U9 Netball v St Cedd's - (A) - leave 1.30pm - return 4.15pm
Friday 26 th January 2018	2.30pm - KS2 - U10AB&C Football v Holmwood House - (H) 2.30pm - KS2 - U11 AB&C Rugby v St Cedd's - (H) 2.30pm - KS2 - U11 AB&C Netball v St Cedd's - (H)
Wednesday 31 st January 2018	2.30pm - KS2 - Year 6 Girls' Football v St Peter's - (H) -
Thursday 1 st February 2018	2.30pm - KS2 - U9A Football & Netball v Widford Lodge - (A) - Leaving: 1.45pm Returning: 4.20pm
Friday 2 nd February 2018	2.20pm - KS2 - Year 6 House Rugby & Hockey
Sunday 4 th February 2018	Times tbc - KS2 - U8A, U9A, U10A + U11A Rugby Festival @ Hurstpierpoint College

