

19 December 2023

Dear Parents,

As the holidays begin, we want to thank all students and families for their engagement and involvement this term.

10 Days of Brightmas

We have really enjoyed celebrating the '12 Days of Brightmas' with our students, and all who were present for the last 12 days of school were entered into our prize draw to win one of five £50 vouchers. It was great to see so many students aiming for this target. Bonus Class Charts points were given to all students in for all 12 days. We look forward to our attendance rewards continuing into the New Year – starting with Sweet Treat Friday for all students present every day for the first two weeks of term!

Enrichment/Inter-house

We have had another successful term of inter-house competitions, with Bravery leading as Term 2 ended. Subject to individual behaviour and attendance, student from the winning house will be invited to finals day. Enrichment will continue in Term 3 and Mr Thie will send out the updated list of clubs via email. All clubs run from 3:20pm – 4:20pm and students will need to seek permission from home to attend.

KEY DATES FOR NEXT TERM

- Monday 8th January: Years 7-10 mid-year assessments begin
- Monday 5th February: Year 11 mock 2 examinations begin
- Tuesday 6th February: Year 9 Options Evening

Mid-year assessments

From Monday 8th January, students in Years 7 – 10 will complete their mid-year assessments. These are conducted to provide both staff at school and families at home with accurate information on how your child is doing in their subjects. Once the assessments are completed and marked, we will be sending home reports for you to review.

Revision materials will be made available to students through the class charts app. Each subject will have different resources, including online platforms such as Seneca Learning ([Seneca Learning](#)), Sparx Maths ([Sparx Maths](#)) and BBC Bitesize ([GCSE - BBC Bitesize](#)). All students should be able to access these resources on their iPads.

In Year 10, the assessments will be run formally in the examination hall for English, Maths and Science. This is to mimic exactly how the students' GCSEs will run in 18 months. It is important for students to experience this process to understand what will be expected of them in Year 11. The more we practise with them, the easier the process becomes. Year 10 students will be sitting Maths, English, Science and their three option subjects (although there will be some options that are exceptions to this due to the nature of the content studied). Below are the dates for the three core subject examinations.

- Monday 8th January, Periods 1 & 2: English
- Wednesday 10th January, Periods 1 & 2: Maths
- Monday 15th January, Periods 1 & 2: Science

Principal
Andráea Davies

Uniform

A reminder to all families that students should be in full school uniform every day, including a blazer and house tie, which were given out in September. Students should not be wearing leggings, stretchy skirts or stretchy trousers to school. Shoes should be polishable and socks should be black. The uniform policy can be found in full on the school website, where new uniform can also be bought, in addition to being available in most supermarkets.

Mary Poppins

Several Brightstowe students have been busily rehearsing for this year's drama performance, taking place on Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th January. Curtains open at 6:30pm. Tickets will be available in the New Year on Scopay for £3 - come and be entertained by our thespians!

SEND Coffee Mornings

Thank you for your attendance at our SEND coffee mornings this term. We have been working hard on developing the students' pupil passports with them and have had a successful term of intervention with the launch of Lego Therapy and Touch Typing alongside our existing interventions.

We're hoping to see more of our parents/guardians in the new year; we'll be starting off on Wednesday 31st January at 9.15am with an Autism Awareness and supporting strategies session. Parents and guardians are invited to join.

Free School Meals

If your child is not receiving free school meals but you think they may be eligible, please see the Free School Meals letter included in this communication.

PTA (Parent Teacher Association)

We are setting up a PTA to allow parents and teachers to work better together to foster a positive learning environment and organise fundraising events to facilitate this. If you are interested in being involved with the setting up of this venture, you are warmly welcome to attend the first meeting on Friday, 19th January at 12:00. Please email leanne.cockram@oasisbrightstowe.org for more details.

We wish you a happy and safe holiday and look forward to welcoming you back to Brightstowe in the New Year!

Kind Regards,



Andráea Davies
Principal
Oasis Academy Brightstowe