

Friday 22 October 2021



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BRADFORD GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Co-educational up to 11, Girls only 11-16

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe that the first half term has already come to an end, although I know that staff and students are all looking forward to having a well-deserved break next week. Please note that we return to school on **Monday 1st November**.

Being able to operate a more 'normal' school since September has been fantastic, and we have much to celebrate:

- 188 (30%) of our Senior School students have had zero negative points so far – our 'Zero Heroes!'
- On average, students have received 166 reward points
- 284 Senior School students (Y7: 82, Y8: 65, Y9: 48, Y10: 50 and Y11: 39) have achieved 97% or above attendance. Mrs Simon will be sending out certificates to these students.
- We have run 35 parent workshops / events and have really enjoyed welcoming our parent community back into school once again
- We have had over 200 applications for the fair banding test for Year 7 2022 entry of 140 places, and there is still a week to go before the deadline.

In this week's letter you will find:

1. The Week Ahead: Week Commencing Monday 1st November 2021
2. Fair Banding Assessment
3. COVID – Lateral Flow Testing
4. Year 7 Parents' Evening arrangements
5. Focus on Literacy
6. Community Support
7. Uniform Standards
8. Road Safety

1. The Week Ahead: Week Commencing Monday 1st November 2021

Weekly Assembly Theme				
Day	Session	For	Time	Location
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednesday	How to help your child in Maths and English	Year 10 & Year 11 parents	3.45 – 6pm	Main Hall
Thursday	How to help your child in Maths and English	Key Stage 1 & 2	3.45 – 4.30pm	Lady Royd Primary
	Parents' Evening	Year 7 Parents Students also welcome	4 – 6.30pm	Senior School
Friday	Stay and Learn	Reception Parents	8.30-8.50am	Reception

2. Fair Banding Assessment

May we please remind any parents wishing to apply for a place for their child in senior school, for September 2022 entry, that they must complete a SIF form and submit to the school, as well as applying to Bradford Admissions direct. Closing date for applications is **31st October 2021**. Please note, we cannot accept any applications without a completed SIF form. Full details can be found on our website.

Fair Banding Assessment – Saturday 13th November 2021

For those who have completed the application process, details of the arrangements for the day will be sent w/k comm 1st November 2021.

3. COVID – Lateral Flow Testing

Thank you for your continued support with Covid-19 home testing. **We know how important it is for you to be able to send your children to school.** To help reduce the spread of the virus, Senior School students should continue to do twice-weekly lateral flow tests throughout the October half-term school holiday and take a test before returning to school/college. All results should be reported to the NHS, even if your result is negative or void.

4. Year 7 Parents' Evening

We look forward to meeting parents face-to-face in school. Please book via Edulink One by following the instructions attached. Many teachers of Year 7 have more than one class, which means that unfortunately they will not have enough appointments available to meet every parent. Teachers will be in classrooms, and so please allow a short gap between appointments to give time to move between rooms.

Bookings will be open from **9am 23rd October and close 3rd November at 12noon**. These are on a first-come-first-served basis, but if no appointments are left and you have any concerns, please do email the teacher and arrange a telephone call. Some departments are also joining together to alleviate this issue and one teacher will be prepared to give feedback about more than one subject.

5. Focus on Literacy

Author Visits

This week primary children were excited to welcome popular children's author, Tom Palmer to officially open the new primary library. After the official ribbon-cutting ceremony, organised by our primary school council, Tom met with pupils to discuss his writing and where he gets the ideas for his stories. The children were thrilled to meet the author of the book they had been reading, and staff agreed he was an engaging visitor who inspired the children with their literacy and helped enrich their learning. Children also enjoyed a virtual visit from the author Andy Griffiths, who is based in Australia and writes 'The 13 Storey Treehouse' series.

The primary children are thoroughly enjoying these author visits which has really encouraged their reading and given them a valuable insight into how to develop their writing.

The New Primary Library

Just a reminder that our primary school library is open to visit after school every day. Parents are welcome to come in to browse our books with their child, share a story or change their child's library book! Year 3 pupils, Hania & Ruqayyah are making the most of the new library and are regular visitors.

Senior library adds more BAME authors for students

Today the senior library took delivery of over 100 books written by authors from the BAME community, provided by Penguin books as part of their '[Lit in Colour](#)' initiative. Penguin have joined forces with [The Runnymede Trust](#), a national charity set up to overcome racial inequality, to help support schools to make the teaching and learning of English literature more inclusive. These books will help the school increase students' access to more books by writers of colour.



6. Community Support

We have been provided with details of Free Counselling and Mental Health Support Resources. Free, safe, anonymous online mental health services are available to adults via Qwell (www.qwell.io) and Kooth (www.kooth.com). They both offer an online emotional wellbeing community that is accessible 24/7, 365 days of the year and provides access to chat to accredited counsellors and qualified emotional wellbeing practitioners. Details of upcoming events in November and how to sign up are attached.

Bradford Council are providing food vouchers over half term for families who meet the criteria. If families are eligible, they will automatically be sent a letter about how they can access the vouchers.

7. Uniform Standards

As a school we are proud to have high standards of uniform and behaviour, and these have been strengthened this term. We understand that this is very important to parents and would value your support in reinforcing the following uniform expectations:

- Earrings - please check that your child only has one stud earring per ear, and no hoops. A single nose stud is permitted but no hoops.
- Jumpers - As it starts to get colder, and we need to maintain some ventilation, we will allow students to wear a plain navy-blue jumper under their blazer. This should not have any visible logos.

8. Road Safety

There are continued concerns about the safety of pedestrians on Squire Lane due to parents dropping-off students outside the gates. We are working with the Council to see if there are any further measures to improve the situation, but in the meantime please could I urge all parents to act with due consideration towards others. Cars should certainly not be mounting pavements, parking on double-yellow lines, or opening doors next to pedestrians. We would like to encourage all parents to reflect on their transport arrangements and consider walking, parking further away, or using public transport.

Thank you for your continued support of the school and all our community. We wish you all a very happy, and safe, half term holiday.

Yours sincerely



Clare Martin

Principal

BRADFORD GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL
& LADY ROYD PRIMARY

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